Rabin: No hostage negotiations yet

HAIFA (AP) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday that Israel had not yet started negotiations for freeing Israeli soldiers or Western hostages held by radicals in Lebanon. But Rabin contended that Israeli kidnapping of a Lebanese Shiite clergyman last month succeeded in bringing the issue of the missing soldiers and hostages to public attention, opening the way for gaining their freedom. Israel has offered to exchange Obeid and its other Lebanese captives for three missing soldiers and the 16 foreign hostages held in Lebanon. The government faced criticism from the United States after Obeid's kidnapping when an offshoot militia claimed it killed an American hostage, U.S. marine William Higgins, because Israel refused to free the clergyman. The offshoot group, the Organisation of Oppressed on Earth, made public a videotape purportedly showing the hanging death of Higgins, who was kidnapped in Lebanon in February 1988. However, Israeli officials maintained Higgins was killed before Obeid's abduction.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الرأي»

Black Panther co-founder killed

OAKLAND, California (R) — Huey Newton, co-founder of the militant Black Panther party in the 1960s, was found shot to death in Oakland, California, Tuesday, police said. Newton, whose organisation of young blacks injected a tough, militant tone into the civil rights struggle, was found at about 5.30 a.m. (1230 GMT) on the pavement of an Oakland residential area known for drug activity, they said. Police said he had been shot three times in the head. Homicide investigators cordoned off the area and went from house to house questioning residents. Newton, along with Bobby Seale, founded the Black Panthers in 1966, dressing its members in uniforms and arming them with weapons for public displays of force. Members of the organisation once showed up fully armed at the state legislature in Sacramento, the California state capital. Newton disbanded the group in 1982. Newton had frequent brushes with the law, most recently in March when he pleaded no contest to a charge of misappropriating public funds. The case involved money intended for a Panther-founded Oakland school for disadvantaged children. At the time, he was already in jail for violating the terms of his parole on a drug possession conviction.

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Crown Prince explains ACC concept

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Tuesday that the world nowadays neither cares for small economic gatherings nor for improvisation since the characteristic of the current era is economic groupings.

Delivering a lecture at the Royal Military Academy on the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) — grouping Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen — Prince Hassan said "duality in dealings between countries is no longer a useful method."

Prince Hassan noted that circumstances and in-depth studies justified the establishment of the ACC.

The Crown Prince explained the positive aspects of the ACC and its role in demonstrating Arab integration on all levels.

Following the lecture, Prince Hassan answered questions from the audience.

Present at the audience were ACC Secretary General Dr. Hilmi Nammar, Council of Arab Economic Unity Secretary General Hassan Ibrahim, Prince Hassan's Advisor Dr. Jawad Anani, the assistant chief of staff for operations and training, and commanders of military colleges.

New RJ chief appointed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government Tuesday named Husam Abu Ghazalah as president and chief executive of Royal Jordanian (RJ) Airlines, the national carrier, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Abu Ghazalah, 48, a former deputy air force commander, succeeds Ali Ghandour, who resigned as chairman and chief executive of the national carrier Friday.

Ghandour had worked for the airline since its creation in 1963 and had been chief executive since 1974.

Abu Ghazalah joined Royal Jordanian in 1987 as head of the maintenance and engineering department and became deputy executive president in June this year.

An unidentified official quoted by Reuters said the government had appointed Mohammad Asfour, head of the Chamber of Trade, as non-executive chairman of the airline's board.

Ghandour has become His Majesty King Hussein's adviser on civil aviation, air transport and tourism.

Hoss rules out positive response to Aoun offer

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon's Muslim and leftist leaders rejected a peace offer from army commander Michel Aoun Tuesday after night-long rocket and artillery duels between their Syrian-backed fighters and Aoun's forces.

Also Tuesday, France announced it sent two more naval vessels to the Eastern Mediterranean, bringing to eight the number of its ships dispatched towards Lebanon.

Police said four people were killed and 50 wounded in the clashes that dwindled after daybreak into intermittent exchanges of mortar rounds across Beirut's dividing green line.

By police count, 789 people have been killed and 2,190 wounded in the five-month-old confrontation between Aoun's 20,000 mainly Christian troops and 40,000 Syrian soldiers and allied militias.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss, who heads a civilian cabinet vying for power with Aoun's, ruled out any positive response to an offer for negotiations by the general.

"It is a mine field. Any response to it is highly unlikely," Hoss said in a statement broadcast by Voice of the People, a radio station based in west Beirut.

Aoun said in an interview published Monday he was ready anytime to discuss Lebanon's future at a round table with leaders of the other side.

Aoun did not mention his previous demand that talks on political reforms could be held only after Syria withdraws its forces from Lebanon.

U.S. Ambassador John McCarthy, talking to reporters after a 45-minute meeting with Aoun, stressed that "there's obviously no military solution to the problem for Lebanon."

He said Washington had "told people that we prefer and recommend the implementation of a cease-fire."

McCarthy said the purpose of his meeting with Aoun was to "emphasise that the military confrontation is not taking us anywhere."

"We are delivering the same messages to Damascus," McCarthy said.

The Sunnis' acting mufti, Sheikh Mohammad Rashid Kabbani, also said "violence cannot produce solutions."

Kabbani, in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Nation, the most popular radio station in the western sector, cautioned France to use "with great wisdom" its naval force in the Mediterranean.

Defence Ministry sources in Paris said the anti-submarine destroyer Jean de Vienne and the oil supply ship Meuse are to join six other vessels heading for or already operating off Lebanon in what France has described as a humanitarian mission.

The flotilla also includes the aircraft carrier Foch, the anti-aircraft destroyer Cassard, the landing barge Orage, the destroyer Duquesne, the frigate Estienne D'Orves and the oil supply ship, Var.

Aoun made his peace offer after the French naval buildup in the Mediterranean, which was described by his rivals as an attempt by Paris to revive its dominance over the region.

France ruled Lebanon and Syria by mandate until 1943.

Newspapers in the Iranian capital, Tehran, warned the West that any involvement in Lebanon would further aggravate the situation.

Iran backs extremists in Lebanon and maintains some 2,000 Revolutionary Guards in east Lebanon.

"France by even appearing to take an interest can only cause bottlenecks which will put further off any humanitarian endeavours possible to ease tensions in the Lebanese maze," said the English-language Tehran Times in an editorial.

Another English-language newspaper, Kayhan International, said: "The French military move at this crucial juncture in Lebanon is nebulous and tricky. It is a fact that the complex political maze in Lebanon is of French doing."

Syria has not commented on Aoun's peace offer.

But Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, Syria's closest ally in the confrontation with Aoun, described it as "a trick to allow Aoun a breathing spell to rearm and marshall his forces."

Meanwhile, the command of Syrian-backed leftist militias claimed its gunners opened up at six unidentified ships before dawn, preventing them from docking at Aoun-held ports.

A statement issued by the operations room of the Nationalist Front said its gunners "scored direct hits on the lead ship, forcing the whole group to sail away."

A spokesman for Aoun's command, speaking on condition of anonymity, described the claims as "baseless."

Shortages hit Armenia; strikes continue in Baku

MOSCOW (R) — Shortages of fuel and other goods hit the Armenian capital of Yerevan Tuesday and nationalist strikes closed factories in neighbouring Azerbaijan for a second day.

The unrest and shortages increased tensions in the southern Soviet republics, where more than 100 people have died in conflict between Armenians and Azeris in the last 18 months.

"There is practically no fuel at all in the republic," a spokeswoman at the official Armenpress news agency said from Yerevan.

She said unrest in Soviet Georgia has forced diversion of supply trains through Azerbaijan, where they were targets for attacks by Azeris seeking to put pressure on Armenia.

"Armenia is practically blockaded," she said.

The Armenian Communist Party newspaper Kommunist said several thousand rail cars loaded with vital goods for Yerevan were stranded in Azerbaijan last week.

A spokesman for the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry said scattered strikes continued in Baku, the capital, though transport and the oil industry were working normally.

"There are a few strikes in mostly light industry, but transport and oil production are continuing," the spokesman said. There were no reports of disorders.

The official Soviet news agency TASS said about 25 enterprises were closed, involving about 10 per cent of Baku's workforce.

A city official in nearby Sumgait said factories were operating normally there.

But members of the unofficial Azerbaijani Popular Front, which called the 48-hour strike, said protests had shut down many of Baku's big industries and had also spread to Sumgait.

The front is demanding more autonomy for Azerbaijan, recall of its parliamentary deputies, control over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh, freedom for those it considers political prisoners, and an end to a curfew and military rule imposed last November.

Hundreds of thousands of people were expected to attend a big demonstration in Baku Tuesday evening which was expected to call for a republic-wide general strike in early September.

The 48-hour strike followed a one-day stoppage last week which closed factories and brought more than 150,000 protesters into Baku's Lenin Square.

In another southern republic, Uzbekistan, the first of 36 people charged over ethnic rioting in June went on trial Tuesday, TASS reported.

About 100 people died in 10 days of clashes between local Uzbeks and Meskhetian turks, exiled to the region by dictator Josef Stalin 45 years ago.

The news agency said Khabibullo Abdurakhmanov, a 20-year-old unemployed villager, faced up to 15 years in prison if convicted on charges of attempted murder of a policeman and other crimes.

It said only Abdurakhmanov's failure to release the safety catch on a stolen pistol saved the policeman's life.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat holds up a card, which, he said, was one of the thousands of identification cards issued by the Israeli occupation authorities to residents of the occupied Gaza Strip, at a press conference in Amman Tuesday (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

PLO moderation has limit, Arafat warns

By Suhair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — "Patience has a limit," warned Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Tuesday, saying that he reserved the right to convene the Palestine National Council (PNC) to reconsider the moderate Palestinian peace strategy if no visible progress in the peace-making process is achieved.

Speaking at a press conference at the guest palace, Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and president of the state of Palestine, said: "I have an obligation towards my people who have the right to know about the conspiracy they are facing. And then it is up to the PNC to decide the policy to be adopted."

Arafat's remarks clearly reflected a growing frustration over the stagnated peace process, which has come to a rest with an Israeli plan for elections in the occupied territories. He reaffirmed the PLO's rejection of the plan, which he described as conspiracy hatched by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, and criticised the U.S. for its "wholehearted" support for the proposal.

However, he restated that the PLO was willing to accept the proposal if it was part of a comprehensive peace settlement, envisaging free elections under U.N. auspices after Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

The PLO chairman also assailed the American administration for its support for Israel and the iron fist policy it is carrying out in the occupied territories to quell the 21-month-old intifada.

According to Arafat, the Shamir plan implies "democratic occupation." He asked: "Can there be a democratic occupation or a non-democratic occupation?

Arafat accused Israel of using terrorism, starvation and discrimination against the Palestinian people in a move to implement the Shamir plan.

"Discrimination is explicitly manifested in the new magnetic identity cards which the Israeli government issued for residents of the occupied Gaza Strip," he said. "I pose a question for President (George) Bush: What is your position towards all this? How does the American congress feel about it? Or does human rights end when it comes to Palestinians?"

He spoke feverishly holding up a card which he said was one of the thousands issued by Israel. He said U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly who visited the region earlier this month had defended this "discrimination policy."

"I would like to ask the Americans as well as the entire international community what their position is on this issue? Do they still support Israel? Israel is continuing to receive American aid and arms. Is it not American arms that are killing our people in the occupied lands."

Commenting on the U.S.-PLO dialogue which started in December last year, he said: "All we get from our talks with America is more concentration on Shamir's election plan, totally ignoring the Palestinian peace plan which has now become an Arab one after the Casablanca summit."

Arafat, wearing his traditional military fatigue and keffiyeh as well as a pistol, said the PLO strategy "is not a tactical line; we are looking for peace and a comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem."

"We favour a Namibia-style independence plan," he said. "It is an American plan; it is even called the New York agreement. Why not the same style for the Palestinians?"

Arafat, who held talks with His Majesty King Hussein and other senior Jordanian officials in the past two days, described his talks in Amman as "constructive, fruitful and successful," but would not provide any detail on the substance of the discussions.

Asked whether he had "ordered" the Palestinian people in the occupied territories to use only Jordanian dinars in their dealings in a move to support the Kingdom's currency, he said: "They have always been using the dinar and will continue to do so."

Arafat appeared to dismiss a Syrian offer to cooperate with Palestinians in armed struggle against Israel and that he did not receive an official offer from Syria and had only heard it through the media.

However, he said, "am I stopping them? they have (the pro-Syrian Palestinian faction) Saiqa; let them do the job. They have (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command leader) Ahmad Jibril; let him do the job. I have my own ways.. to implement my political and military tactics."

Pressed further on the issue, whether there were any "political considerations" behind the Syrian offer, Arafat said: "I have not received anything officially. I am not in the habit of reacting to media stories."

The PLO leader sidestepped a question whether the PLO condoned attacks on Palestinians accused of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities. "Are you against it? he asked the questioner. "They are 'quislings.' How many quislings were killed during the Second World War?"

Arafat warned against what he described as a plot to deport half a million Palestinian families from Lebanon. The plot, he said, has already started with the expulsions of 85 families from Wadi Zeina and Jiyyeh south of Beirut.

The PLO chairman, who arrived here Sunday and reopened the offices of the Palestine National Fund Monday, left for an undisclosed destination later Tuesday.

Palestinians chanting nationalist slogans carry the body of a compatriot shot dead by Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank.

Israeli troops claim 3 more Palestinian lives

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers claimed three more victims in the occupied territories Tuesday and an Arab human rights group accused Israel of obstructing inquiries into the death last week of a 14-year-old Palestinian-American.

Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said the dead included Nasser Shahin, 17, found beaten and shot through the heart outside Al Amari refugee camp near the West Bank town of Ramallah.

Al Amari residents said troops had arrested Shahin Monday night. Military sources denied this, saying the army had been unable to examine the body, which was apparently buried quickly.

Hospital officials said a 20-year-old woman, Maha Awad Abu Hadad, was shot dead during clashes with troops in Deir Al Balah in the occupied Gaza Strip.

In Ramallah, a 14-year-old girl, Najlah Adel Al Nadi, died in hospital from gunshot wounds suffered Aug. 16, hospital staff said.

A tug-of-war was developing over the body of 14-year-old Amjad Hussein Jibreen, an American citizen, which was found in Ramallah Friday with a bullet wound in the chest. The United States has requested a complete investigation into his death.

Relatives said Jibreen's head was smashed and his body had cigarette burns. Military sources said he had been shot at close range, apparently by a pistol, but there were no signs of torture.

The army claimed an Israeli autopsy performed Sunday showed he was not killed during a "security" operation.

However, the Jerusalem Post daily Tuesday quoted an informed security source as saying the army's findings "did not rule out a killing during security forces operations, they do not exclude independent action by an individual soldiers, security operative, settler or Arab assailant."

The U.S. consulate in Tel Aviv asked Israel to make a complete investigation into the death of the youth, who was born in Denver, Colorado, and lived for a time in Miami, Florida. He returned to his family's hometown of Al Bireh in 1983.

Al Haq, an independent group monitoring human rights in the West Bank, accused Israeli authorities of delaying the return of the body so that an independent autopsy could be performed.

"The corpse has not been released and the Israelis are putting up bureaucratic roadblocks," said a spokesman for Al Haq after waiting all day with Scottish doctor Derrick Pounder, who flew here to perform an autopsy.

"The longer we delay the more difficult the examination becomes," Pounder, head of forensic medicine at the University of Dundee and a member of the Boston-based Physicians for Human Rights, told Reuters.

Pounder would not discuss negotiations underway with Israeli officials but sources close to Jibreen's family said authorities did not want to hand over organs, clothing and other material considered vital to establishing how he died.

The family went to the supreme court Monday to force the army to allow a second autopsy. The court ruled Tuesday that the body could not be buried but said a debate on a second autopsy would not take place until Sunday.

The latest deaths raised to 609 the number of Palestinians killed in the 20-month uprising.

Israeli radio said authorities cancelled the reopening of high schools scheduled for Wednesday because of the violence. Other classes have resumed during the last month, more than a year after Israel closed schools.

In the West Bank village of Idna near Hebron, residents said "shock committees" who punish collaborators held a public trial of a Palestinian suspected of cooperating with the Israeli occupation authorities.

The witnesses said men with their faces masked by black and white keffiyehs, broke both of the man's arms and cut his face with a knife in the village centre.

End in sight for Polish crisis

WARSAW (R) — Poland's parliament has agreed to vote Wednesday on whether to confirm Solidarity editor Tadeusz Mazowiecki as prime minister and end a three-week crisis over forming a government.

Tadeusz Fiszbach, deputy parliamentary speaker, told reporters the vote was scheduled during a meeting of parliamentary leaders.

Mazowiecki would be the first non-communist prime minister in Eastern Europe for more than 40 years.

Earlier Mazowiecki and Marian Orzechowski, the leader of the Communist Party's 173 parliamentary deputies, emerged smiling from talks in parliament.

The Communist Party's policy-making Central Committee threatened last weekend to refuse to cooperate with Solidarity in forming a government. It demanded more than the interior and defence ministry which it has been guaranteed.

But Mazowiecki told reporters after meeting Orzechowski: "We held intensive talks and you know what we were talking about."

Asked how the meeting went, he said with a broad smile: "You can see our faces."

"I can say the same thing," Orzechowski said.

Mazowiecki, has said that his government will uphold its commitments to the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact military alliance.

"The government that I will form will have relations with all the countries of the pact and will uphold its alliances," he said in an interview with the French newspaper Le Monde published Tuesday.

Mazowiecki said the Soviet Union had shown understanding in reactions to the prospect of a Polish government led by a non-commuist. The Soviet Union showed "a good understanding of changes in Poland in the same way as we understand the changes in the Soviet Union," he said.

Asked if moscow had defined the limits of the change it was prepared to see in Poland, Mazowiecki said he had heard nothing beyond official Kremlin declarations.

Soviet officials have refrained from commenting on the situation, calling it an internal affair. But they have also said they are concerned about the unfolding events.

Over 300 arrested in Prague protests

PRAGUE (Agencies) — More than 300 protesters were arrested in Prague on the 21st anniversary of the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia but human rights campaigners said on Tuesday riot police had been less brutal than anticipated.

Fifty foreigners were among the 370 people arrested on Monday, the Interior Ministry said.

Charter 77 human rights spokeswoman Dana Nemcova said unprecedented participation by Hungarians and Poles in the demonstrations had tempered police violence.

"They saved us from the great brutality that had been anticipated," she told Reuters.

Police swinging truncheons charged at thousands of demonstrators during the protests which spread over much of central Prague and lasted over three hours.

The Interior Ministry said there were no injuries although witnesses reported many people were beaten.

But in comparison with police action against week-long protests in January, anti-riot forces showed restraint.

The fate of the foreigners, said by diplomats also to include Italians and two Austrian cameramen, was unknown Tuesday morning. Czechoslovak media earlier warned they would face punishment under valid national laws.

Besides the hundreds of people detained Monday, dozens of well-known activists were taken into preventive detention before and during the weekend, Charter 77 spokeswoman Nemcova said.

Nemcova said plainclothes police who placed her and her son David under house arrest early Sunday left late Monday night.

Two other prominent activists, Peter Uhl and Anna Sabatova, were still not at home by Tuesday

Children play among the debris of their house destroyed by shelling in west Beirut.

'Paris of Middle East' becomes a ghost town

By Nick Ludington
The Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus — After 14 years of vicious civil war, Beirut is nearly deserted maze of artillery-riddled buildings and garbage-strewn streets.

But the Lebanese capital used to be an intellectual centre and vital contact point for business people, known as the "Paris of the Middle East" for its high living and high finance.

Only a handful of foreigners remain from the estimated 100,000 — Western and Arab — who once mingled with a heady mix of Arab princes, high-rollers, emigres, adventurers and Lebanon's 17 Christian and Muslim sects.

A veneer of Western culture was superimposed on the fragile sectarian structure imposed by the French when they granted Lebanon independence in 1943, masking a volcano of hatreds seething beneath the exuberanc and sophistication.

The city had great natural beauty. Its luxury hotels, apartments and office blocks gleamed between the blue Mediterranean and pine-covered mountains.

Westerners came to mine the rich lode of oil money, buying into several dozen Lebanese banks or opening their own offices.

New York's Citibank decorated a full floor in its office annex at the Holiday Inn with imported carpets and furniture. A few months later, it was looted and destroyed as rival militias battled for the strategic high-rise buildings along what became the "green line" that divides the capital into Falangist and opposition sectors.

Westerners were attracted by the combination of modern amenities with the oriental flavour of the old gold souk, the cosmopolitan society and Middle Eastern food.

The last English-language Beirut guidebook published before the civil war noted: "Everywhere you will feel the warm Eastern hospitality. One thing a foreigner in Beirut need never worry about is making friends."

Fourteen years later, scores of foreigners have been kidnapped, most of them by virulently anti-Western Muslim groups. Sixteen are still held hostage.

More than 150,000 Lebanese, mostly civilians, have been killed, another 1 million have been displaced.

The burnt-out hulks of the St. Georges, Palm Beach, Phoenicia and Holiday Inn hotels are clustered in what once was Beirut's tourist centre. It now is a sepulchral ruin, inhabited only by militia snipers.

In the old days, one could sit in the St. Georges' celebrated restaurant and watch the water-skiers skimming behind the latest Italian speedboats.

At night, many went to the Great Casino de Liban, north of the city in what is now Christian territory, to gamble or watch two imported floor shows.

Those with the right connections might attend functions dominated by the doyenne of high society, Isabelle Soursock. She was from an old-money Lebanese Christian family and became Lady Isabelle when she married an English knight, Sir Desmond Hamilton.

Or they might be invited to the museum-like house of Henri Pharaon, a bachelor shipping millionaire who lived among priceless Islamic art treasures and pictures of horses be raced at Beirut's lively track against the ponies of Saudi princes.

The track on the "green line" is now wrecked, a nightmare landscape of bullet-splintered trees and shell holes.

Beirut also had serious side before the war, based on the presence of the American University of Beirut and large numbers of Arab intellectuals.

"The Arab emigres contributed to the city more than the Lebanese socialites," said Charles Snow, an oil economist who lived many years in Beirut before moving to Cyprus in 1976.

The American university and medical school once had 5,000 students and produced a large share of the Arab World's professional, academic and political leaders.

They included George Habash, chief of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Five months of shelling by rival Syrian and Falangist forces has closed the university, at least temporarily. Several of its officials have been kidnapped.

Adjoining the university's park-like campus was the American Community School where children of expatriate families studied and played baseball.

Beirutis could ski at Faraya on Mount Lebanon, play tennis, squash or race in motor rallies.

There were two golf courses near Beirut. The Golf Club of Lebanon is next to the now-closed airport. An American journalist who played there as late as 1983 wrote that the safest places on the course were the sand traps.

The luxurious Delamiyeh Country Club, with a gorgeous sea view from a ridge south of the city, was abandoned after being taken over by a Palestinian group early in the war.

Will the old Beirut ever come back?

No one knows. But a television reporter asked Khaled Saab, the owner of Summerland, a functioning hotel built during the war, why he made the investment.

"Did you, as a child, ever kick over an anthill? Did you see how quickly the ants rebuilt? That's Lebanon," he said.

Turkey shuts border to exodus of ethnic Turks from Bulgaria

KAPIKULE, Turkey (R) — Turkey closed its border Tuesday to the unregulated exodus of ethnic Turks from Bulgaria, effectively halting one of the biggest such waves of migration this century.

Dragging rickety carts piled high with clothes, stoves and household goods, ethnic Turks became increasingly desperate as the minutes ticked towards Turkey's official 2 a.m. (2300 GMT Monday) imposition of new restrictions.

"This is Bulgarian oppression. Let the whole world see," shouted one sweating man as his cart bumped over a rut into Turkey.

Finally Unal Erkan, governor of the border province of Edirne, wearily ordered: "Turn that car back: we've got no other choice." A last straggler crossed at 2:40 a.m.

The last day, punctuated with wrenching cries of joy at reunion and wailing sobs of separation, brought the total number of ethnic Turks to arrive by foot, car and train since early June to over 310,000.

Turkey says only Bulgarian travellers with visas will now be able to cross the border until Sofia signs an emigration pact with Ankara that will safeguard the rights of both the emigrants and those who stay.

Sofia has repeatedly refused to hold talks that focus on such an emigration pact, saying the travellers are not Turks but Bulgarian Muslim tourists.

The ethnic Turks say they are fleeing a five-year-old campaign of forced assimilation of their community of 900,000-1.5 million in which their names were changed, and clothes, customs and language banned.

The end of the migration appeared to have at least tacit Bulgarian cooperation, with the last arrivals saying thousands more would-be emigrants were being held back away from the border.

"They really beat one crowd of people who got restive, saying 'the Turks don't want you,'" said Hatice Osman.

But Turkey, with 17 per cent unemployment, 74 per cent inflation and a 2.5 per cent population growth rate, was also not in a strong position to receive any more people, diplomats say.

The problem of where to lodge those already here for the winter is huge. Most live in schoolhouses that have to be emptied by Sept. 1.

Some refugees are being moved to hotels, others will be put in state employees' summer holiday villages and elsewhere prefabricated blockhouses may take the place of tent cities.

A minority of the new arrivals are staying with relatives who came in smaller waves of ethnic Turkish migration in 1968-78, 1951-52 and 1923-49.

Tens of thousands of ethnic Turks who wanted to leave Bulgaria also remain and a long-term problem will be that of new divided families, especially sons left behind to do their military service.

"They can keep my house and land but if there is an emigration agreement all I want is my son," said Hatice Mehmet.

Senegal breaks ties with Mauritania

DAKAR (R) — Senegal severed diplomatic ties with Mauritania Monday after Mauritania expelled the Senegalese ambassador in Nouakchott.

Mauritania's charge d'affaires in Dakar, Bilal Ould Werzeg, told Reuters he had received a note from Senegal's foreign ministry asking all Mauritanian diplomatic personnel to leave Senegal within 24 hours.

The break followed a row between the two West African neighbours after ethnic riots last April and May which left hundreds dead and thousands displaced.

The diplomatic note gave no reasons for Senegal's move, made public a few hours after Mauritania ordered out the Senegalese ambassador for activities incompatible with his diplomatic status — normally a euphemism for spying.

Werzeg said he planned to board a scheduled Air Afrique flight due to leave for Nouakchott Tuesday. He said his government has yet to announce which country would now defend Mauritanian interests in Senegal.

Relations between the two countries have been strained since the communal violence last spring.

The riots, triggered by a minor border incident over grazing rights, were fuelled by decades of simmering racial tension between black Senegalese and the mostly light-skinned, Arabic-speaking Moors dominant in Mauritania.

Since then both governments have accused each other of expelling their own nationals across the River Senegal, which forms the border.

Mauritania recalled its ambassador to Dakar in May on the eve of a meeting of French-speaking nations in the Senegalese capital, leaving the embassy staffed by a charge d'affaires and four other low-ranking diplomats.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, is due to visit both states next month to try to resolve the dispute.

Iran ready to restore ties if U.K. shows respect to Islamic values

NICOSIA (R) — Iran would restore ties with Britain at once if London showed respect for Islamic values, Tehran's deputy foreign minister for America and Europe was quoted Tuesday as telling a Tehran newspaper.

"Relations with Britain can be restored even today," the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Mahmoud Vaezi as saying in an interview with the Tehran Times.

Iran broke ties with Britain in March after then supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini called for the killing of British author Salman Rushdie who he said had blasphemed against Islam in his novel "The Satanic Verses."

Vaezi, who negotiated last year's brief renewal of ties between Tehran and London, told the paper that links "must be conditional on the British government being able to convince members of the Majlis (parliament) that its intentions are genuinely motivated and it will be willing to respect Islamic values and principles."

Vaezi's "conditions" for a renewal of ties appeared to be a softening of the Iranian position. Tehran's parliament has previously said that ties could be reconsidered only when Britain ended its support for Rushdie and his novel.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted the deputy foreign minister as saying that links would have stayed healthy if Britain had not committed "the unpardonable mistake of supporting Salman Rushdie."

Britain has rejected Iranian demands for the novel to be banned and said Tehran must withdraw the death call, which Iran's leaders have repeated since Khomeini died in June.

Signals from a dark world tell little about kidnappers

By Marwan Naamani
Reuters

BEIRUT — Three lines usually mean bad news. If it's three pages, the hostage is probably still alive.

Signed with exotic group names and authenticated by photographs or videotapes, the threats, demands and announcements of Lebanon's kidnappers arrive without warning at news agency or newspaper offices in west Beirut.

Handwritten or typed in Arabic, they always start with verses from the Koran.

Anonymous messengers hand them to doorkeepers or drop them unseen at entranceways. One was spotted using a paper tissue to avoid leaving fingerprints on a plain white envelope.

The last to arrive, from the Revolutionary Justice Organisation Sunday night, threatened to harm two hostages if France intervenes in Lebanon.

The communiques, totalling several dozen over the past five years, have common threads:

Militancy, hatred of Israel, ("the Zionist enemy"), rage against the United States ("the great Satan"), support for Iran, loyalty to "struggling brothers" imprisoned in the West, Israel or Kuwait.

Some messages carry love or birthday wishes from captives to their families. Some announce plans to kill a hostage.

Usually, a few days later, a reprieve arrives with several pages of angry justification for the kidnappers' cause.

But sometimes the next message announces in a few harsh lines that the hostage has been "executed."

These scraps of paper have told the world most of what it knows about the kidnappers and what they want. But the picture remains blurred. Experts think the group names are a ruse by one network of pro-Iranian kidnappers using several covers.

Released hostages have reported seeing together in the same cell captives whose abductions were claimed by different groups.

Several security sources and diplomats say the kidnappers are members and officials of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God).

They say the network included the "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World," which announced on July 31 it had hanged U.S. Marine Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins in reprisal for Israel's abduction of Hizbollah cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid.

Seventeen Westerners remain missing in Lebanon. Eight have figured in messages accompanied by proof that they are genuine.

Those messages have been signed by four groups:

— Islamic Jihad (Holy War), emerged in 1984, kidnapping a Saudi Arabian diplomat and claiming responsibility for suicide bombings of U.S. Marines and French paratroopers.

It demanded an end to Western support to Iraq and release of 17 Arabs held in Kuwait for a wave of bombings in 1983.

The group announced the "execution" of two hostages, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent William Buckley and French researcher Michel Seurat.

It has released seven hostages: a Saudi Arabian, three Americans in a 1985/6 arms-for-hostages deal between Washington and Tehran, and three Frenchmen after Paris restored diplomatic relations with Iran in May 1988.

It still holds American journalist Terry Anderson and university dean Thomas Sutherland. No statements or photographs have been delivered for more than a year.

— The Revolutionary Justice Organisation appeared in May 1986 demanding the West end support for Iraq and claiming the kidnapping of four French journalists who were released in 1988.

It offered this month to swap American Joseph Cicippio for Sheikh Obeid and 450 other Lebanese and Palestinians. It has claimed to hold American Edward Austin Tracy.

— Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine emerged in January 1987, four days after American professors Alann Steen, Robert Polhill and Jesse Turner and Indian Mitheleshwar Singh were kidnapped from the campus of Beirut University College.

It demanded the release of 400 Arab prisoners in Israel. It later offered to free a captive if the U.S. recognised the right of Muslims to struggle against Israel. Singh was freed in 1988.

— The Arab Struggle Cells surfaced in May, 1989, claiming the kidnapping of Briton Jack Mann. It demanded the release of Palestinians it said were held in Britain for killing a Palestinian cartoonist. Britain said it had no such prisoners.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Polisario rejects King Hassan's invitation

ALGIERS (R) — Guerrillas fighting Morocco for independence of Western Sahara have said they rejected an invitation from King Hassan to return to Morocco. Repeating an offer he has made several times previously, King Hassan said in a broadcast Sunday night that he would pardon opponents who returned to Morocco. He reiterated his invitation after the recent defection of several leaders of the Polisario Front, which has been fighting since 1976 for control of Western Sahara, annexed by Morocco after Spain withdrew from its former colony.

Leland, other victims to return home

WASHINGTON (AP) — The bodies of U.S. congress Mickey Leland and eight other Americans who died in a plane crash in Ethiopia will be returned to the United States Wednesday, the State Department has said. A memorial service for the Texas Democrat and his party will be held Wednesday at the Lincoln Memorial in the nation's capital. Leland's family then plans a private burial service in Houston. About 5,000 people attended a community memorial service Friday at Texas Southern University, Leland's alma mater. Leland, eight other Americans and seven Ethiopians died Aug. 7 on their way to a refugee camp along Ethiopia's southwestern border when their twin Otter plane crashed into a mountainside. All 16 on board are believed to have died instantly. The bodies were found a week later after a massive effort by U.S. and Ethiopian officials. Retrieval of the bodies took several days and the identification process took several more days. Leland was chairman and founder of the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Hunger.

Swedish officials meet Jewish leader

STOCKHOLM (AP) — A prominent U.S. Jewish leader accused Sweden of having an unbalanced Middle East policy after meeting Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson. But Carlsson rejected the criticism from Seymour D. Reich, head of the influential U.S. Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organisations, and said Sweden would stick to its policy. Sweden helped mediate contacts that led to a statement by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) last December accepting Israel's existence and renouncing terrorism. Israel and some Jewish organisations denounced what they saw as Swedish meddling. "Even if we are criticised we put up with it... We cannot change our position because of different organisations, regardless of how powerful they are. We must proceed from what we think is correct and reasonable," Carlsson said. Carlsson and Foreign Minister Sten Andersson met privately with Reich, who was in Stockholm to chair a congress of the B'nai B'rith, which he heads.

Kurdish rebels kill 4 in Turkish village

ANKARA (R) — Autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels killed four people in an eastern Turkish village and kidnapped 19 youths from two others, official sources said Tuesday. A group of 40 guerrillas of the banned Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) raided Aktas village of Bingol province Monday night and gunned down four men, they said. Another rebel group kidnapped 19 males aged between 15-20 from the villages of Dikenli and Uckardesler in south eastern Hakkari province, adjoining Turkey's borders with Iran and Iraq. Nearly 1,600 people have been killed in PKK attacks and clashes with security forces since the rebels launched an armed campaign for Kurdish autonomy in southeast Turkey. Security sources say there has been a marked increase in PKK attacks in the region since May. Meanwhile, officials at a refugee camp in southeastern Mardin said 305 Iraqi Kurds including women and children had returned to Iraq Monday.

Spanish writer held in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (R) — A Spanish travel writer has been arrested in Kandahar province, southern Afghanistan, after crossing from Pakistan with rebels. The official Kabul Radio said Monday night that Jorge Juan Sanchez Garcia had told the authorities it was his second trip into Afghanistan. The broadcast, monitored in Islamabad, gave no further details. A Spanish consular official in Islamabad said Garcia, 35, of Barcelona, was writing a book on how to travel cheaply. He had visited the Spanish embassy in February and again in late July. Hundreds of mainly Western journalists and aid workers have crossed into Afghanistan with the anti-government rebels over the past few years. A few have been arrested by the Kabul government, accused of spying, jailed and then released after a few months. French aid worker Vincent Gurnigon, was killed in Helmand province west of Kandahar last week when government troops ambushed the rebel group he was travelling with. His colleague Henri Xavier Lemire was injured and captured.

Sudan expels Irish relief worker

CAIRO (AP) — An Irish woman working with the Concern Relief Organisation has been expelled from Sudan after authorities accused her of being a "security risk," a senior concern official said Tuesday. Anne O'Mahony, director of the Irish organisation in Sudan, said the deportee, concern's assistant director for health services Bridgitte Quirke, left Sudan last Sunday. O'Mahony spoke in a telephone interview from the Sudanese capital Khartoum. She said that Quirke had been working in southern Kordofan late last year and until January when she flew home for treatment after contracting hepatitis. "On her departure then, airport authorities searched her luggage and found some British newspaper articles on the situation in southern Sudan. No subversive stuff or anything, but there has been an on-going investigation of her since," O'Mahony said. She said that Quirke had been issued a re-entry visa and returned to Sudan in May. In July, her visa was renewed until December, O'Mahony said. "Then the authorities made a final ruling and decided she was a security risk. Her visa was revoked and they gave her a week to leave," O'Mahony said, adding that Concern was able to get her a two-week extension.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 ..... Koran
15:40 ..... Programme review
15:45 ..... Children's programmes
17:00 ..... Alph
17:30 ..... Educational programme
18:00 ..... News summary in Arabic
18:05 ..... Cairo News Message
18:25 ..... Local programme
19:20 ..... Local programme
19:40 ..... Programme review
20:00 ..... News in Arabic
20:30 ..... Arabic series
21:40 ..... Local programme
22:25 ..... Wrestling
23:10 ..... Varieties programme

PROGRAMME TWO
18:10 ..... Loft story
18:40 ..... Des Chiffres Et de Lettres
19:00 ..... News in French
19:15 ..... Documentary
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew
20:00 ..... News in Arabic
20:30 ..... "You can't take it with you"
21:10 ..... Poseidon Files
22:00 ..... News in English
22:20 Best seller: "Master of the Game"

PRAYER TIMES

04:37 ..... Fajr
06:00 ..... *(Sunrise) Duha*
12:38 ..... Dhuhr
16:16 ..... 'Asr
19:17 ..... Maghreb
20:39 ..... 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifieh, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel: 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather conditions will continue to prevail and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	19 / 31
Aqaba	24 / 37
Deserts	19 / 36
Jordan Valley	24 / 38

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Hanna Mansour 740733
Dr. Wael Dimati 748008
Dr. Hisham Abu 'Arqoub 893122
Dr. Daoud Al Sanbouri 625778
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Mazen Abu Bakr ..... (—)
Al Sharaa' pharmacy ..... (985238)

ZARQA:
Dr. Musa Odeh ..... (—)
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630841
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amm 644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amm 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732

IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272275
Ibn Al Nafees Hospital ..... (02)247100

AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

08:30 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 ..... Damascus (RJ)
10:15 ..... Aqaba (RJ)
10:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)
10:40 ..... Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:45 ..... Larnaca (RJ)
11:30 ..... Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
12:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)
12:50 ..... New Delhi (RJ)
16:45 ..... Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
17:20 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
18:00 ..... New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:15 ..... Istanbul (RJ)
18:15 ..... Athens (RJ)
18:20 ..... Paris (RJ)
18:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)
18:45 ..... London, Geneva (RJ)
19:00 ..... Brussels, Rome (RJ)
19:55 ..... Madrid, Frankfurt (RJ)
20:00 ..... Kuwait (add.) (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:20 ..... Dubai (AZ)
13:00 ..... Benghazi (LN)
13:00 ..... Baghdad (IA)
13:15 ..... Sana'a, Jeddah (IY)
13:20 ..... Cairo (MS)
14:30 ..... Kuwait (KU)
17:25 ..... Jeddah (SV)
19:25 ..... Frankfurt (LH)
20:05 ..... Cairo (MS)
20:05 ..... Tripoli (PK)
22:20 ..... Paris, Damascus (AF)
01:00 ..... Tunis (TU)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal (1)

09:45 ..... Aqaba (RJ)
12:10 ..... Athens (RJ)
12:20 ..... Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:40 ..... London (RJ)
12:40 ..... Istanbul (RJ)
13:45 ..... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
13:45 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
13:45 ..... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
14:15 ..... London (RJ)
15:00 ..... Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
20:00 ..... Colombo (RJ)
20:15 ..... Calcutta (RJ)
20:30 ..... Riyadh (RJ)
20:30 ..... Damascus (RJ)
20:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)
20:40 ..... Kuwait (RJ)
20:45 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:10 ..... Jeddah (RJ)
21:15 ..... Baghdad (RJ)
21:20 ..... Cairo (RJ)
21:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)
22:00 ..... Colombo, Bangkok (RJ)
22:15 ..... Dhahran (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal (2)

06:25 ..... Rome (AZ)
06:30 ..... London (BA)
08:35 ..... Larnaca, Zurich (SR)
14:00 ..... Benghazi (LN)
14:00 ..... Baghdad (IA)
14:05 ..... Cairo (MS)
14:15 ..... Jeddah, Sana'a (IY)
15:35 ..... Kuwait (KU)
17:25 ..... Medina, Jeddah (SV)
20:25 ..... Sanaa (LH)
20:50 ..... Cairo (MS)
22:05 ..... Karachi (PK)
02:00 ..... Dubai (TU)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (golden)	550 / 500
Apple (red)	620 / 550
Banana	400 / 350
Banana (Mukammar)	350 / 300
Beans	370 / 300
Carrot	240 / 200
Cabbage	120 / 80
Cauliflower	300 / 250
Corn	200 / 160
Cucumbers (large)	300 / 250
Cucumbers (small)	440 / 380
Eggplant	170 / 100
Fig (green)	300 / 250
Fig (blue)	1100 / 900
Garlic	1100 / 900
Grapes	320 / 250
Grapes (red)	240 / 200
Guava	450 / 350
Lemon (yellow)	300 / 250
Lemon (green)	260 / 200
Mallow	80 / 60
Marrow (large)	250 / 200
Marrow (small)	420 / 350
Okra	420 / 350
Orange	500 / 400
Onion (dry)	200 / 160
Peaches	1000 / 800
Pepper (hot)	180 / 140
Pepper (sweet)	180 / 140
Potato	420 / 320
Raddish	80 / 50
Sweet Melon	280 / 100
Squash	350 / 300
Tomatoes	150 / 100
Water Melon	180 / 80

King receives credentials of 6 new ambassadors

AMMAN — Six newly appointed ambassadors to Jordan Tuesday presented their credentials to His Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Court. They were: Denis Bauchard of France, K. Gajendra Singh of India, Ocktay Aksoy of Turkey, Nouri Ismail Alwees of Iraq, Pacifico Castrol of the Philippines and Knut Moerkved of Norway. The guard of honour played the national anthem of Jordan and those of the respective countries of the new ambassadors upon their arrival at the Royal Court for the presentation ceremony. The ceremony was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Mudar Badran, His Majesty King Hussein's political advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem. Earlier Tuesday the Norwegian Ambassador handed a copy of his credentials to Qasem.

Ministry of Education to promote vocational courses at schools

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has laid down a plan to increase the number of students undertaking vocational training courses and has appointed 400 guides and student counsellors at schools around the country to encourage students to opt for vocational courses after completing their 10th grade, according to Dr. Ahmad Atwan, director of the ministry's Vocational Training Department.

He said the plan entails involving 50 per cent of students from the 10th grade in vocational training programmes by the year 1998.

The plan will be implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour's Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) which is also involved in its own vocational training and apprenticeship programmes in Jordan, Atwan noted.

The plan also entails providing training to instructors at all levels and introducing textbooks and vocational training curricula at schools, Atwan added.

Expansion of vocational training at schools was called for by the first national educational conference held in 1987 which urged the concerned authorities to introduce vocational programmes in all preparatory and elementary classes, Atwan pointed out.

He said that the plan entails giving such training to students at the rate of one period a week for the first four classes, two periods for the next three classes and four to students in the higher classes until the 10th grade.

Vocational training students working at workshops installed at schools last year produced JD 235,000 worth of products mainly furniture, Atwan noted.

He said the Ministry of Education will support the work of schools by providing headmasters with proper vocational training qualifications to promote the vocational training process.

King congratulates Romanian president

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent a cable of good wishes to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on his country's national day anniversary.

He wished the president continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Romanian people.

On this occasion, Romania's Ambassador to Jordan Dimitrie Stanescu held a reception at the Jerusalem Hotel in Amman attended by ambassadors, officials, heads of trade unions and prominent Jordanian personalities.

Among those present were former Prime Minister and Upper House of Parliament member Bahjat Talhouni and speaker of the Palestine National Council Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh.

Environmental committee discusses protection of Aqaba from pollution

AQABA (J.T.) — A committee, charged with protecting the environment in the Red Sea port of Aqaba and safeguarding marine life, met Tuesday as part of preparations for national strategy on the protection of the environment in Jordan.

The committee which was formed earlier this year following a meeting held in Amman under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, discussed a number of questions related to protecting the beaches of Aqaba to prevent contamination.

The committee also discussed a working paper which will be submitted to the next meeting of a committee preparing the national environment strategy.

In August last year, the Queen visited Aqaba and expressed concern about environment problems emanating from phosphate powder and its effect on public health and marine life.

The Red Sea has a large variety of rare marine species which Jordan, in cooperation with international organisations and the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature is trying to protect.

The Queen last month chaired the first meeting of working groups in charge of drawing up the national environment strategy.

The project followed six months of extensive research. It was provided for in an agreement between the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

Majali, Khreisat hold talks with Iraqi press association team

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali had a meeting Tuesday with the visiting president of the Iraqi Press Association Sabah Yassin And Association member Ibtisam Abdullah.

Discussion at the meeting covered press and publication cooperation between Iraq and Jordan and also areas of cooperation in information among the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries.

The meeting was attended by the Jordan Press Association President Hashem Khreisat, who had held a meeting with Yassin earlier in the day in the presence of association members.

Khreisat and Yassin discussed closer cooperation between the Iraqi and Jordanian associations and the role of Iraqi and Jordanian journalists in promoting information cooperation among the ACC states.

Aqaba marine station succeeds in producing shrimps commercially

AQABA (Petra, J.T.) — The Marine Science Station in Aqaba has succeeded in breeding and producing excellent amounts of shrimps in its fisbery, established on the southern coast of the Red Sea port.

Station Director Mohammad Wahbeh said that so far the fishery has produced two tonnes of sbrimps and the results were beyond expectations, obtained in far less time than it would have taken in other natural environments.

Wahbeh said that shrimps in the station's fishery grew from balf a gramme to between 250 to 400 grammes in just one year whereas it takes a shrimp to grow this much in one to eight years in a normal environment at sea.

Wahbeh also noted that a kilogramme of shrimps produced at the station's fishery cost JD 5 whereas a kilo costs JD 8 to buy on the local market due to the fact that the young shrimps are bought from other countries and because fish feed is costly.

Wahbeh said that the JD 35,000 project owned and operated by the station in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture entailed installing large cages submerged in water, each with a 128-cubic-metre capacity for the shrimps to breed in.

He announced that the station and the Ministry of Agriculture have now embarked on producing shrimps and other types of fish in Aqaba and providing feed and other requirements at reduced prices.

According to Wahbeh, Jordan imports nearly 7,000 tonnes of fish for local consumption annually and it is time for fisheries to be set up in Aqaba to produce sufficient supplies for the local market and save foreign currency spent on purchasing fish.

Jordan and Egypt are undertaking a fishery scheme in Egypt within the context of implementing projects under the joint holding company established by the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee.

4,621 jobs created

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers met Tuesday and approved the organisational plan for the year 1989 for government departments in Jordan, creating a total of 4,621 new jobs.

The Ministry of Education acquired the lion's share of the new jobs, with a total of 2,014, followed by the Ministry of Health, 1,141. The rest were distributed to other government ministries.

According to a cabinet statement, the total cost of tbe new jobs will be JD 8 millioo and that JD 147.6 million are paid annually in salaries to employees in different departments.

Iraqi Agricultural Engineers Association delegation arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Iraqi Agricultural Engineers Association arrived in Amman Tuesday on a three-day visit to Jordan.

Its members will have meetings with officials here on promoting cooperation in the work of agricultural cooperatives in the two countries.

The team will also make field trips to important agricultural projects especially those involving plastic cover and drip irrigation schemes.

As the team arrived another Iraqi team ended a series of meetings here at the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) office.

The meetings, which covered the subject of cooperation among Iraqi and Jordanian cooperatives, ended with the signing of minutes which called for an exchange of visits by officials in charge of cooperatives and the exchange of expertise between Iraqi and Jordanian cooperatives.

The two sides agreed to coordinate stands between cooperatives in both countries in matters of interest to the general cooperative movement and decided on measures to boost training of cooperative members.

The minutes were signed by JCO Director General Mrewid Al Tal and Saadallah Attieh Hussein, chairman of the Iraqi Cooperative Organisation.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

BRIGADE CELEBRATES NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY: His Majesty King Hussein Monday attended a festival of units from Al Hussein Ibn Talal Brigade held on the anniversary of the King's accession to throne. Jordan's radio and television corporation orchestra presented several national songs. The event was attended by the commander of Al Hussein Ibn Talal Brigade, the director general of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation, and a number of officers. (Petra)

YOUTH FORUM MEMBERS VISIT POLICE ACADEMY: Director of the Royal Police Academy Brigadier Mohammad Anwar Al Bsoul Tuesday received visiting members of the Arab Youth Forum and briefed them on the academy's goals and duties. The visitors, then, toured the various academy sections. (Petra)

ACC MINISTERS OF JUSTICE MEET TODAY: The Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) Ministers of Justice will hold their first meeting in Baghdad Wednesday. The discussions will deal with the unification of civil and punitive legislations as well as means to rehabilitate lawyers and prosecutors. (Petra)

PAKISTANI COMMANDER VISITS INFANTRY SCHOOL: Pakistani Chief of Staff General Mirza Aslam Bek Tuesday visited the Paratroops Square at the Infantry School of Martyr Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein where the special forces' conscripts conducted a number of exercises. The Pakistani ambassador in Amman and the Armed Forces inspector general were also present. (Petra)

PEOPLE'S ARMY: The first batch of the People's Army recruits from Tafileh Governorate graduated Tuesday. The graduation ceremony was attended by the commander of the People's Army, the governor of Tafileh, a number of army officers, and citizens. (Petra)

KEILANI VISITS JORDAN VALLEY: Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Keilani Tuesday visited the maintenance projects in the Jordan Valley region and Wadi Al Arab Dam where he was briefed on the water situation in the region. During the visit, Keilani stressed the need to maintain fairness in water distribution and help the farmers in this regard owing to water shortages this year. (Petra)

PROMOTING JORDAN'S EXPORTS: The federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce has prepared a working paper on promoting Jordan's exports. The paper will be presented to a meeting of Arab experts which will convene in Aqaba on Nov. 5. The paper includes proposals related to increasing exports, increasing trade exchange between Arab foreign countries, and means for marketing Arab goods in Arab and international markets. The meeting will be sponsored by the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences. (Petra)

AACO to discuss joint projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — A technical committee set up by the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) will meet here Wednesday to discuss joint projects to be launched by Arab airlines.

The establishment of a joint company to finance the purchase and lease of aircraft for Arab airlines will be on the top of the agenda of the committee's two-day meeting which will be chaired by the AACO Secretary General Adli Dajani.

The Amman based AACO last month signed an agreement with an international consultancy firm to conduct a feasibility study on setting up a unified comprehensive distribution system for Arab airlines.

The outcome of the feasibility study will also come under scrutiny by the committee members which represent the AACO member states, according to Dajani.

Dajani said the establishment of the pan-Arab company on aircraft will be declared in October.

A series of meetings have been held, involving the AACO and Arab funds and institutions that would finance the new company which was decided upon a recommendation by a special committee comprising Royal Jordanian and two other airlines.

The unified comprehensive distribution system is expected to enable all travel offices and airlines in the Arab World to conduct reservations and booking procedures with great ease and would help provide better services to customers, AACO officials said.

It was Dajani who, last month, signed the consultancy deal on behalf of nine Arab airlines included in the AACO.

Under the agreement the consultancy firm will take 20 weeks to prepare the study which entails examining the markets of the nine airlines and contacting international companies specialised in distribution systems, to pave the way for the project.

According to the AACO officials, the committee will review reports about the ACC organisation's commercial, air freight, refrigeration, ground services, engineering, training, public relations, planning and financial plans.

AOID ends study for new projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) has finalised studies for a host of projects which would be set up in the Arab countries, including two major schemes in Jordan and Iraq, AOID Director General Hatem Abdul Rashid said in a statement here Tuesday.

Among these projects he said is a cotton spinning plant in Sudan, a steel factory in Egypt and a pesticides production plant in Syria.

Abdul Rashid, who is currently on a visit to Jordan, said that he discussed AOID projects and future plans at a meeting with Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab and other senior officials.

Questions related to AOID operations in the Arab World, which mainly entails coordinating joint industrial ventures, were among the other topics discussed at the meetings, Abdul Rashid noted.

Abdul Rashid and Innab reviewed preparations for convening a meeting by a follow-up ministerial committee due in Damascus in the coming month.

On the committee are ministers of industry in Jordan, Syria, Algeria and Tunisia who will discuss technical and organisational matters related to a pan-Arab industrial development conference.

Abdul Rashid said he had a meeting with Mr. Hassan Ibrahim, Secretary General of the Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity which serves as an umbrella for all pan-Arab organisatiuns operating under the Arab League.

Abdul Rashid underlined the importance of joint Arab organisation and companies affiliated to the Arab League and said they contribute towards inter-Arab integration among Arab states. "It is true that some of these companies and pan-Arab organisations had had some difficulties over the past years, among them the Arab Potash Company (APC), but were helped to boost production and make profits.

Abdul Rashid cited the Arab Potash Company, and the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances as among the most successful Arab companies.

AOID Director General Hatem Abdul Rashid Tues day speaks to the Petra reporter in Amman (Petra photo)

Fund studies prospect of issuing postal orders

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Postal Savings Fund is conducting studies on the prospect of issuing postal orders following successes achieved in providing a variety of services to the Jordanian public, according to the director general of the Post Office and Postal Savings Fund, Abdullah Al Jazi.

He said that plans have been laid to expand the post offices work to inelude procedures enabling citizens to pay for their water and electricity consumption through post offices.

Jazi, who made the statement on the eve of the fund's 15th anniversary said that the fund which was established in 1974 now operates through 317 branches around the conntry.

A total of 2.234 million people mostly young citizens and students bold accounts with the fund which offers them interest on their savings and arranges for long-term loans for students completing their university education, Jazi noted in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The corporation, he said, will celebrate the fund's 15th anniversary next month, and preparations are underway for these celebrations to spread awareness about the fund's benefits for all public sectors.

Recently, the fund concluded a deal with the National Aid Fund (NAF) to take over the task of distributing financial assistance to the needy people registered with the NAF, and there are plans to introduce a special savings system for students, Jazi noted.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

☆ **An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Maha Abu 'Ayyash at the Plastic Artists Association, Shmeisani.**

☆ **An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawanmeh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafan Al Masri at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.**

FESTIVAL

☆ **A cultural festival including exhibitions of books, paintings and national documents, as well as documentary films, lectures and poetry recitals at Eder Sports Club, Karak.**

LECTURE

☆ **A lecture entitled "Women's Retirement Rights" by lawyers Hani Al Dahleh and Asma' Khader at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.**

Jordan Times

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The writing is on the wall

THOUGH it is not exactly a bolt from the blue, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's warning Tuesday that it is as easy for him to reverse the PLO's moderate peace strategy as it was formulated by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in November 1988 should not be taken lightly, least of all by the United States and Israel. There has been little sign of any tangible move towards peace since November despite eight months of dialogue between the U.S. and the PLO as well as the song and dance number that Washington forced the PLO to perform in Geneva in December — that is, of course, not to mention the fact that the least mentioned idea in the dialogue by the U.S. is the proposal for an international peace conference where a solution to the Palestinian problem could be thrashed out. If anything, the U.S. and Israel appear to be sitting back and patting each other in the back that the ball is in the Palestinian court with *the much-touted Shamir plan for elections in* the occupied territories. No doubt, they believe that something will come along somehow, sooner or later, to bring about a change in the Palestinian rejection of the plan in its present form and then the scene will be fine and dandy for the implementation of the proposal; a guillotine for all Palestinian aspirations for self-determination and statehood.

The writing is on the wall; clear and in capital letters, if you please (it has been so since day one): There cannot be any "peace" process based on the Shamir plan as it stands now, not to mention the conditions attached to it by its mastermind's *Likud Bloc*. Quite simply, it is a non-starter in its present form and content, because it not only circumvents the fundamental elements in the Palestinians' quest for their rights in their own soil but also seeks to ensure that the very idea of Palestinian independence and statehood is killed, at least for the foreseeable future.

Where does that get the Palestinians? Obviously, nowhere.

What about the Palestinian leadership, who have to fight off hardliners among themselves over moderation, let alone their preoccupations with the ever-present threat of devious Israeli tactics and deceitful schemes? Back to square one, of course.

Who is the culprit in the stagnated scenario? No, no, don't look at us, say the Americans pointing out that the Palestinians should simply take the limping U.S.-PLO dialogue as a sign of American good faith and conviction that the Palestinian struggle is legitimate but that it is the PLO's responsibility to convince Israel of its sincerity for peace. Well, then half the ball is in the Israeli court. But can the U.S. argue itself out of the court when it is the moral, military, financial, political and whatnot kind of support that Washington extends to Israel that is behind the Zionist state's rejection of a just and fair settlement of the problem?

Okay, let us overlook the American role for a moment and switch to the Israel-PLO scenario. How can anyone, least of all Washington, expect the PLO to tear down the wall of "no-dealings-with-the-PLO-terrorists" policy built by the Israelis? Perhaps, it hopes that the PLO would break its head and bleed to death trying to ram the barricade. Wishful thinking, to say the least, *simply because the PLO does not represent a small group of* anti-American, Soviet-supported Palestinian extremists as portrayed by many; it represents the legitimate struggle of a highly-politicised people who harbour no ambiguities over what they want. And that is nothing short of all legitimate political rights of any people, including the right to set up their own state on their own soil and the right to live in peace and security. It is not only time that Washington and Israel realised it but also high time for corresponding action towards meeting them at least halfway with a view to addressing the problem in a just and fair manner. If the U.S. is not willing to move, then the Palestinians will move, but in a *reverse direction from moderation.*

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Tuesday lauded the ongoing coordination between the Jordanian and Palestinian leadership in matters pertaining to common challenges. The paper referred to the talks between PLO chief Yasser Arafat and King Hussein, and said that they reflect the two leaders' deep sense of responsibility towards the Jordanian and Palestinian people who are in fact united people with the same struggles and the same objectives. Any weakness *affecting one side* is bound to have its negative effect on the other and any strength coming out of joint and concerted efforts should lead to strength and a stronger steadfastness in the face of adversity, said the paper. King Hussein's talks with Arafat in Amman have focussed foremost on the situation in the occupied Arab territories and means of supporting the oppressed Palestinians who are waging an uprising for freedom. The two leaders are maintaining the closest possible coordination and cooperation, since they realise that the Jordanian-Palestinian people are confronting Israeli expansionist designs and Israel's onslaught on the Arab people of Palestine, the paper added. It said that whatever the two leaders decide on, is bound to contribute positively towards efforts for enhancing the Palestinian people's steadfastness.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily calls on the concerned authorities to deal with complaints made by the storekeepers and other businesses who are forced to pay a JD 1 fee for television which they do not have in their stores. Columnist Salah Abdul Samad says that the monthly bill coming from the Jordan Electricity Company includes JD 1 for as an extra television fee whether the recepient owns a television set or not. The writer says that such fee is rightly exacted from homes which have television sets, but should not be imposed on stores, banks, and other businesses which are open only during business hours and do not have television sets. Imposing such a fee on groceries, companies and stores might tempt a number of store owners and merchants to purchase television sets and to increase electric power consumption; and by so doing they will be causing unnecessary expenses and draining the country's resources at a time when rationalisation of spending is most needed, the writer notes. He says that it is true that the extra fee constitutes an additional and welcome revenue for the treasury, but it should not be charged from all people at random.

ECOLIGHT

By Jawad Anani

The pharmaceutical industry in Jordan

THE MINISTER of Health, Dr. Zuhair Malhas, is a rational man whom I have known for many years. He has given me continuous encouragement and support. He is indeed a friend in need. Yet, this time I appeal to his good judgment in order to give the pharmaceutical industry a fair deal which I believe it very much deserves.

I can fully sympathise with the minister's hesitation to increase the prices of locally produced drugs. In these hard economic times, adding to the burden of consumers is a non-popular decision. However, this price freeze rule may prove to be costly to the Jordanian economy.

There are five companies in Jordan which produce medications. They are all success stories at varying degrees. Their total contribution to the Jordanian economy can be easily identified. Their total production increased from a modest figure of JD 1.9 million in 1975 to JD 27 million in 1988. Most of the increase in production was devoted to exports which increased from JD 1.2 million in 1975 to JD 20.5 million in 1988. Meanwhile, Jordan's imports increased from JD 3.8 million to 19.3 over the same period.

A closer look at these figures reveal very interesting facts: First: the share of exports was increasing while the share of the domestic market was also increasing. This is a testimony of an active and mobile industry.

Second: Jordan's pharmaceutical industries meet the ambitions of policymakers who always look forward to an industrial base that can open new and real job opportunities, meet the local demand at competitive prices and increase the country's income in foreign exchange. The pharmaceutical industries has been able to meet all of these ambitions.

Third: politics and economics are not always separable. One of the political mottos is to enhance Jordan's security. Medical security is used in parallel with food security. Thus, our pharmaceutical industry also meets this political ambition for Jordan.

In the light of these facts and others the industry deserves a fair deal from the Jordanian society at large, and from the government in particular. The lack of price resiliency could threaten this industry and frustrate its growth potential. The prices of medical drugs in Jordan are determined in accordance with a formula agreed to by the Ministry of Health and the industry. In recent months, the industry had to cope with rising domestic and international input prices. The ministry has cooperated in trying to compensate the industry short of increasing their shelf-prices. The manufacturers put up with this price freeze for a long time. I doubt if they could put up with more losses from now on.

In the light of foreign exchange shortages, rising unemployment and rising prices of medicines in the international markets, our pharmaceutical industry should be given a fairer deal.

The minister of health knows that, and I am fully sure he will show greater sympathy.

Afghanistan: towards a political compromise?

By Mushahid Hussain

THERE are a number of indications that the military option pursued by supporters of the Afghan Mujahedin may have run its course by October. While the posturing of those backing the Mujahedin still retains the old hard-line tone, their actual policy is apparently more flexible.

Foremost among the factors facilitating the change of approach on the Afghan issue by both Pakistan and the United States is the failure of the Afghan Mujahedin to achieve a decisive breakthrough on the battlefield after the Soviet military withdrawal. Second, there is Prime Minister Bhutto's resolve to move Pakistan's close relationship with the United States from "a one-dimensional, Afghan-orientated" base to a wider canvas. Afghanistan became the centrepiece of the Pakistan-American relationship only after the U.S. started the biggest covert operations programme since the end of the Vietnam war to militarily supply the Mujahedin through Pakistan. Such assistance has totalled $2.1 billion.

Another important factor necessitating a change of line for Pakistan and the United States is the effective break-up of the broad anti-Soviet coalition that emerged in the region in the aftermath of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Two key components of this coalition — China and Iran — have normalised relations with Moscow and their views on some aspects of the Afghan issue are now clearly at variance with those of Pakistan. Finally, preparatory efforts are underway to help smooth the way for some sort of agreement between Moscow and Washington to defuse the Afghan civil war.

Both superpowers held talks on Afghanistan in Stockholm on July 31-1 August, the first formal resumption of the superpower dialogue on Afghanistan in the last 18 months. Although the Stockholm session was expected to be limited to the reiteration of their respective positions, there were *efforts to prepare the basis for an* eventual, broad three-point U.S./USSR agreement. Under this framework, details of which were being worked out prior to their negotiation, both superpowers would:

— agree on "negative symmetry"; ie both would stop military aid to their respective clients in the civil war (the U.S. to the Mujahedin and the USSR to the Kabul regime);

— encourage proximity talks between the Kabul regime and the resistance in a pattern similar to the one followed by Pakistan and the Kabul regime during the Geneva talks under U.N. auspices. The talks could be held under the principle that in many other regional conflicts (Angola, Cambodia, Nicaragua, Ethiopia and now even Palestine) such talks have either been held or *proposed between the regime and* the resistance. To date, Afghanistan is a notable exception;

— agree on the replacement of Dr. Najibullah by a neutral government, either of "technocrats" (a proposal of Prime Minister Bhutto which has been rejected by the Mujahedin) or of elements associated with former King Zahir Shah, but which would be dominated by neither the ruling PDPA nor the Mujahedin.

One June 24, PLO chairman Yasser Arafat flew to Islamabad from Moscow, where he had conferred with Soviet officials on Afghanistan. He met Mujahedin leaders, who were not enthusiastic about his proposal, apparently emanating from Moscow, that *they participate in* an election in which the PDPA would also participate.

Weaknesses in Pakistan's position

Apart from these developments, some weaknesses in Pakistan's official position on Afghanistan are apparent. There is, for instance, Islamabad's insistence on banking on the Afghan Interim Government (AIG), whose representative character is questioned by the Mujahedin themselves and which has failed to achieve either a diplomatic breakthrough in its effort for international recognition or a major battlefield success.

Second, Pakistan seems to be allowing the political initiative on the Afghan issue to remain in the hands of the superpowers. This was evident during Prime Minister Bhutto's recent American visit, when she requested President Bush to urge the USSR to oust Dr. Najib. Such a proposal is unrealistic anyway, since Najib is politicaly stronger today than he was six months ago. While Pakistan shares the Mujahedin's aversion to any PDPA role in a future government in Kabul, both China and Iran are of the view that the PDPA can be part of future government in Kabul if Dr. Najib and his close colleagues are excluded.

During Rafsanjani's recent visit to Moscow, the two countries issued a joint communique, later reinforced by a statement from the Iranian foreign minister, Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati. The communique said: "The two countries reaffirm the legitimate right of the people of Afghanistan to keep the historical Islamic identity of that country and its territorial integrity and express a common opinion about the right of the Afghan people to decide their destiny themselves without outside interference." It went on to declare "backing for an independent and non-aligned Islamic Afghanistan which will maintain friendly relations with its neighbours". This was the first time that the Soviet Union had publicly and officially referred to the "historical Islamic identity of Afghanistan." During a press conference in Moscow on June 27, Velayati said that "a tranquil and stable Afghanistan meets the interests of both Iran and the USSR", and urged the necessity for "the Afghan people to shape their future themselves," wording which accords with the USSR's on this issue.

The British view

Afghanistan was also the centrepiece of political discussion between the leaders of Pakistan and Britain, during Bhutto's recent visit to London. Like the Americans, the British too seemed to be convinced that there should be no let up in political and military support to the Mujahedin despite the setbacks they have suffered on the battlefield, including the loss of the vital Samarkhel garrison near Jalalabad. However, at the same time, the British government expressed its concern to Pakistan that, in the absence of any military breakthrough, Pakistan and other supporters of the Mujahedin should at least give the impression of some interest in a political settlement. This impression is seen to be important given the coming annual session of the U.N. General Assembly in New York in September and the summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, scheduled to be held in Belgrade, also in September.

Prime Minister Bhutto's discussions with the leaders of the British government effectively capped an intensive round of indepth consultation between Pakistan and principal supporters of the Mujahedin coalition. These supporters of Pakistan's position on the Afghan issue include the U.S., U.K., China, Iran and Saudi Arabia. Prior to her London visit, Benazir Bhutto had been in Washington for discussions with President George Bush, who has recently appointed a special envoy to deal directly with the Afghan resistance based in Peshawar. Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan was in Tehran before flying into London to join the prime minister's entourage, having visited Beijing for similar consultations, and on the eve of her departure for London, on July 4, Prime Minister Bhutto received a key Saudi official responsible for the Afghan issue, Prince Turki Al Faisal.

As a result of these discussions, Pakistan and other supporters of the Afghan resistance hope to be able to formulate a coherent political line for the coming critical months. This would include continuing military support to the Mujahedin to afford them another opportunity for a breakthrough on the battlefield before the snow starts falling later in October, politically nudging the Peshawar-based AIG to broaden its base by inclusion of the Tehran-based, predominantly Shi'ite eight-party alliance and to help promote a superpower deal over the Afghan issue which would oust "extremists" of both left (Dr. Najib and company) and right (Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and company). To such an end Iran's foreign minister, Dr. Velayati, visited Pakistan on July 25.

America's special envoy

The unprecedented appointment of the U.S. "special envoy" to the Afghan resistance is essentially a gesture from the Americans to the Mujahedin to show that they are not abandoning them, at least not yet. During his Pakistan visit, the envoy, Peter Tomsen, said that he was a "representative of the U.S. government to the resistance as a whole", and not just to the AIG. Additionally, he has also underlined the need to "broaden the AIG's base." Still professing support for the military cause of the Mujahedin, Tomsen referred to the over 800 Mujahedin commanders inside Afghanistan and the 300,000 well armed Mujahedin fighters who still refuse to accept the legitimacy of the Najib government. Interestingly, in the past, Pakistani official estimates have put the Mujahedin fighting strength at approximately 350,000 of which some 30,000 were certified to be "Islamic fundamentalists".

However, Tomsen's presence in Pakistan has not been healing wounds within the AIG. A recent clash between commanders of the two principal components of the AIG, the Hizb-e-Islami of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and the Jamiat-e-Islami of Burhanuddin Rabbani, has widened the chasm within the movement. Three of its hard-line components remain opposed to inclusion of the Tehran-backed Shi'ites; while the so-called "moderates", three similar parties headed by the current AIG president, Sibghatullah Mujaddedi, have different views on both the return of Zahir Shah and the inclusion of Shi'ites.

In the final analysis the Afghan Mujahedin now at least seem to be aware that they have to achieve a major military success by autumn, before their principal backers start seeking ways and means for a political compromise. Their main problem right now is that they are still seeking at the conference table — the ouster of Najib and his PDPA — what they have failed to achieve on the battlefield — Middle East International, London.

Britain faces war-crimes dilemma

By Maureen Johnson
The Associated Press

LONDON — Britain is to decide later this year whether to allow its first trials of suspected Nazi war criminals living in this country.

Opting for prosecution would mean hauling at least three aging men from the sheltered respectability of suburbia to answer charges of mass murderers of Jews.

A report commissioned by the government and published July 24 said there was enough evidence to prosecute four suspects — one of whom has since died — and urged further investigation of another 124 cases.

"To take no action would taint the United Kingdom with the slur of being a haven for war criminals," it said.

But the government has made no immediate decision, preferring to leave it to a vote in parliament, where lawmakers are deeply divided.

The yearlong investigation, *which amassed hours of testi*mony from witnesses in the Soviet Union, was conducted by two eminent lawyers, one of them Sir Thomas Hetherington, 62, Britain's former director of public prosecutions.

And with the videotaped accounts of death-camp atrocities in Nazi-occupied Soviet territories that they brought back to be locked up in a government office, a legacy of World War II has returned to haunt Britain 50 years after it declared war on Adolf Hitler's Germany.

Immediately after the war, Britain and its allies accepted waves of refugees. War criminals slipped through perfunctory screening procedures.

There was also a tacit policy of letting bygones be bygones. By 1951, six years after the end of the war, Britain had ceased to take part in war-crimes proceedings.

Then the cold war set in, and at least five Soviet requests for the extradition of war-crimes suspects were rebuffed on the grounds that there was no Anglo-Soviet extradition treaty.

Latter-day concern about criminals prompted the United States to set up an office of special investigations, and Canada and Australia have changed their laws in the past five years to allow prosecutions.

Now Britain must decide, through the parliamentary vote set for October, whether to follow suit.

The British inquiry followed the Nazi-hunting Simon Wiesenthal Centre's submission of a list of suspects to Home Secretary Douglas Hurd in October 1986. A Scottish television documentary produced more names.

In the end, the government inquiry checked allegations against 301 people living in Britain. Because of lack of time, the investigators examined only seven cases in detail.

"I was surprised by the size of the crimes and by the quality of the evidence," Hetherington told the Independent newspaper.

"I was initially surprised by the memory of witnesses until, I think it was Simon Wiesenthal, pointed out that people who have been through that sort of horror don't forget," he said.

The Scottish TV investigation focused on Antanas Gecas, a 73-year-old Lithuanian-born mining engineer and the only suspect who has been identified publicly.

Gecas, a tall, burly man who came to Britain in 1947, lives in a middle-class district of Edinburgh with his wife and daughter.

In the Scottish film, he acknowledged witnessing atrocities while serving in one of the notorious Lithuanian police battalions that murdered an estimated 220,000 people.

But he said he only watched and insisted he was now being victimised by a Soviet smear campaign.

He took no action against the Scottish TV programme, "Crimes of War," when it was shown the first time in 1987. But when it was repeated, the hourlong film had to be cut off 15 minutes early because he obtained an injunction against it.

The government report names the suspects in a separate section that is being kept secret to avoid prejudicing a trial. They are almost all former nationals of the Soviet states of Lithuania, Ukraine and Latvia, scenes of some of the worst atrocities.

Mobile death squads called *Einsatzgruppen, set up* by the SS and often enthusiastically manned by locals, killed tens of thousands of Jews, rounding them up, shooting men, women and children and sometimes burying alive bullet-ridden victims who tried to crawl out from the mass graves.

Hetherington says the first court case could begin late next year if the law is changed speedily *to allow the trial of naturalised* Britons for crimes committed outside this country.

Influential voices say nothing will be served; that elderly witnesses may make mistakes; and that Soviet authorities may pinpoint men who were only anti-Communists, not criminals.

One critic is Lord Shawcross, a distinguished lawyer who prosecuted top Nazis at the Nuremberg trials.

"I cannot believe that a revival of all these sad and terrible matters by sensational trials of a small handful of aged men ... will help to promote understanding and friendship between the different peoples of the world, will help to eliminate the evil of anti-Semitism or — still less — enhance the respect for British justice," Shawcross said in a letter to the Times of London.

Legislator Spencer Batiste, of the governing Conservative Party, replies: "The simple fact is that those who have been guilty of horrendous crimes against humanity must never be able to feel that they are capable of achieving a safe haven in a civilised world."

Ephraim Zuroff, head of the Israeli office of the Wiesenthal Centre, is confident that at least some suspects will finally face their accusers in a British court.

"Governments are reluctant to explose past mistakes ... that through a combination of ignorance and apathy they let in perpetrators of some of the worst atrocities," he said in a telephone interview.

S. African leader sets ultimatum

By Brendan Boyle
Reuter

HANKEY, South Africa — Pastor Allan Hendrickse, reviled by leftists since 1984 for entering South Africa's segregated parliament, vows he will wash his hands of participatory politics if apartheid is not dead in five years.

In that case he would drop opposition to the exiled African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla movement. He says next month's parliamentary poll is the last time he will lead coloured (mixed-race) voters in a race-based election.

"The three pillars of apartheid must go in five years," he said in an interview before speaking in support of his son, Peter, at an election rally in the farming village of Hankey.

Residential segregation, racial classification at birth and the reservation of separate facilities for different race groups would have to be unconditionally suspended by 1994.

"Otherwise I wil have to pull out and say over to you. I give up. I will not be a part of an armed struggle, but... it would be tantamount to an endorsement from me of the ANC," he said.

Hendrickse, a 51-year-old congregational church minister, leads the anti-apartheid Labour Party which holds 76 of the 80 elected seats in the coloured house of representatives, one of two chambers for non-whites set up in 1984.

In the Sept. 6 elections he wants to sweep all 80 seats so that he can fight the government to maximum effect.

"There is no advantage to opposition among the so-called coloureds. We are in opposition *to the government and we can be* stronger if we have the whole house," he said.

Hendrickse served as the first non-white minister in P.W. Botha's cabinet before quitting angrily in 1987. Botha had attacked *him for ingratitude* and once berated him for nearly half an hour on national television for swimming at a whites-only beach.

He was clearly a hero to the 350 coloured farm workers who packed a church hall in Hankey, where the tar gives way to dirt on a road off the coastal motorway to Port Elizabeth.

The men wore ties and heavily patched suits. The women were smartly dressed as though for church. Everyone listened closely, punctuating his points with murmurs of approval.

The talk was largely about housing, of which there is not enough, about replacing nightsoil buckets with water-borne sewerage, about electrification, schools and medical care.

"You can hear how nearly everybody has a cold or a cough," said coloured parliamentarian Chris April. "These people are poor and they want to know about bread and butter issues."

Nightwatchman Hendrik Grootboom said the creation of the coloured house of parliament in 1984 had *given him a new sense* of self-worth.

"Many doors are opening to us that were closed, but an equal society is still the most important thing," he said.

Teacher Neville Dennis said Hendrickse voiced coloured concerns during the fight for equality and that was crucial among people earning as little as 20 rand ($8.70) for a 50 to 60-hour week.

"It's violence or dialogue in this country and the Labour Party is for dialogue," he said. "But Mr. Hendrickse is right — 10 years will be enough. After that we must fight," Dennis said.

Others, like coloured reformed churches leader Allan Boesak, urge non-whites to shun Hendrickse and boycott the poll that will exclude blacks, who outnumber whites, Indians and coloureds by *more than* three to one.

"Prove that the tricameral parliament is a fraud," he said at an opposition rally in Cape Town. "We must not serve systems that entrench apartheid. We must make sure that this is the last election from which (blacks) are excluded."

Cheryl Carolus, a leader of the heavily restricted anti-apartheid United Democratic Front, said at a university rally: "Any option that is open to us to resolve this country's problems will be utilised, but they must be real options. We cannot opt for halfway measures like this that will never bring a lasting peace."

The UDF campaigned to oppose registration of coloured voters when they went to the polls for the first time in 1984, their only parliamentary election so far.

Voyager 2 will film Neptune, then head for the stars

By Deborah Zabarenko
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The ageing Voyager 2 space probe will fly past Neptune next week, sending video "postcards" home before its cameras go dark forever and it heads on into deep space beyond the solar system.

Launched a dozen years ago, on Aug. 20, 1977, Voyager 2 was a minor factor in the U.S. space race and in American consciousness at the time.

The big news from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) then was the successful test of the space shuttle Enterprise, geared to ferry people and supplies between Earth and orbiting space laboratories in the 1980s.

As the 1980s draw to a close, the horizons of the U.S. space programme have been narrowed by financial constraints, the shuttles were grounded for more than two years following the 1986 Challenger disaster, and a U.S. space lab is far from becoming a reality.

NASA's goals have been reshaped to include a base on the moon and a mission to Mars, with the emphasis on manned missions and orbital exploration of planets closer to Earth.

But Voyager 2, and unmanned vehicle equipped with television cameras, radio receivers and computers and powered by plutonium-based electric generators, has just kept going.

The ageing space probe has had its share of troubles:

Its main computer has suffered memory loss. The platform that holds the television cameras does not swivel properly due to a gearbox malfunction. The main radio receiver failed in 1978 and the back-up receiver can follow radio signals on only one frequency, making communications a painstaking business.

Any change of temperature caused by even a minor adjustment of equipment will throw the radio receiver off, said Lanny Miller, one of the scientists who "flies" the spacecraft.

But Voyager 2 has kept working despite its problems, and next Thursday its 4.4-billion-mile (7.1-billion-km) trek through the solar system will bring it to within 3,000 miles (4,800 km) of Neptune.

In October, its cameras will be turned off to conserve fuel and it will move towards interstellar space, reaching the edge of the solar system in five to 10 years.

NASA scientists estimate the space probe's fuel will last for another 25 years as it heads towards a star named Ross 248 in the constellation Andromeda. Even with the cameras turned off, Voyager 2 will still send data back to Earth.

Voyager 2 and its twin Voyager 1, launched on Sept. 5, 1977, followed similar paths past Jupiter and Saturn, sending back pictures for scientists to interpret.

Voyager cameras discovered volcanoes on Jupiter's moon 10, learned more about the largest planet's atmosphere and found that Saturn's rings were more numerous and complex than previously believed.

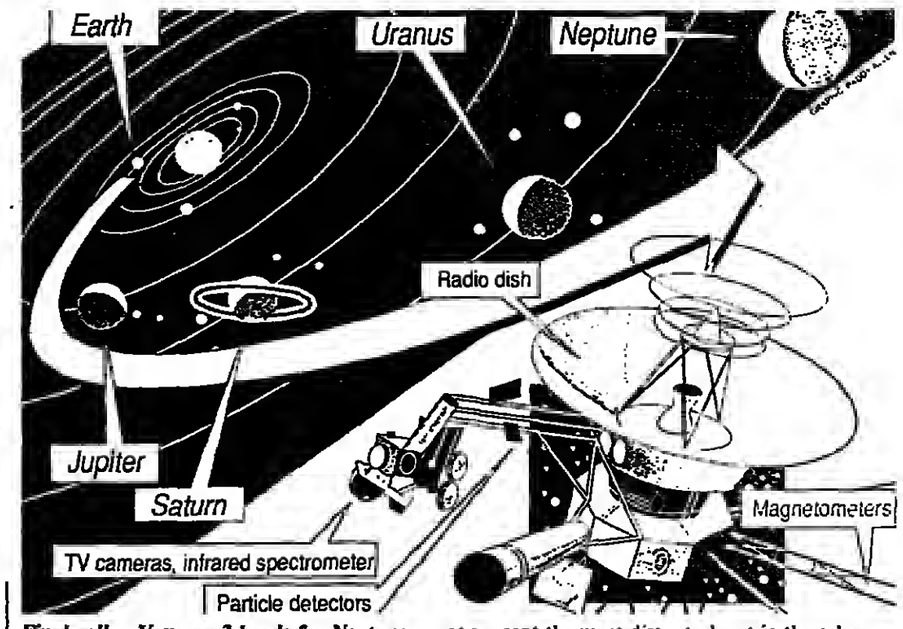
After Jupiter, Voyager 1 turned off its cameras and veered toward interstellar space. Voyager 2 wended through the outer planets, sent back images of Uranus in 1986 — it noted 10 new moons and skewed magnetic poles — and moved on toward Neptune.

Astronomers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, which runs NASA's Voyager programme, say Voyager 2 has found four new moons around the planet, partial rings never apparent before and a large dark spot believed to be a fierce Neptunian storm.

Blue-green with a 30,700-mile (49,000 km) diameter, Neptune is thought to be made up of gases. Voyager images show white streaks around the equator and dark clouds at the poles.

Last Friday Voyager detected intense radio emissions from Neptune, indicating the planet has a magnetic field.

NASA plans live coverage on Aug. 21-29 of the close encounter between Voyager and Neptune. Viewers will see black-and-white images, beamed to satellite dishes on Earth after a four hour, six minute, radio journey from Voyager 2.



Final call... Voyager 2 heads for Neptune — at present the most distant planet in the solar system

End of the California pop dream

By Stephen Holden
New York Times

IN "The End of the Innocence," the plaintive title song of Don Henley's latest album, the Eagles' former lead singer yearns for a faraway time "when days were long and rolled beneath a deep blue sky."

The mood quickly darkens as the singer starts to brood about corruption and moral betrayal, laying much of the blame at the feet of the former president, California governor and Hollywood star, Ronald Reagan, whom he compares to a duplicitous parent.

With Bruce Hornsby's rolling new-age piano underscoring a contemporary cowboy tune, the music carries forward the laid-back sensual feel of Los Angeles country rock from the 1970s.

But the message has changed. The Hollywood dream of endless, expensive pleasure that animated a broad segment of Los Angeles rock for two decades has soured. Henley's disillusion is characteristic of an attitude that is shared in the song of his peers, those singer-songwriters, now in their late 30s and 40s, who constituted an elite West Coast pop society in the 1960 and 1970s.

As the dream has faded, so have the careers of these pied pipers of the golden age of hedonism. Only Henley still sells records in the millions.

Rockmusic began to catch the California fever in the 1960s and 1970s when a good portion of the pop music industry migrated westward from New York, and references to California's sunny climate and voluptuous style of life began infusing pop lyrics.

From the Beach Boys to the Mamas and the Papas, the Byrds, Crosby, Stills and Nash, the Eagles and Fleetwood Mac, luxuriant vocal harmonies became a generic trait shared by West Coast pop groups. Among soloists, Linda Ronstadt's records best distilled aspects of the same ethos.

Their spare, yet glossy studio arrangements along with the singer's all-American enthusiasm, evoked a musical ideal of Hollywood as a melting pot where everything from Motown to Chuck Berry could coincide happily on the same album, drenched in the aural equivalent of California sunshine.

As the California pop ethos evolved in sophistication, so did the concerns of the lyrics. The insular surfside world of the Beach Boys and other performers quickly gave way to more sophisticated, big-city images of the good life.

The Eagles' second album, "Desperado," lightheartedly compared modern Los Angeles to an Old West frontier town, with itinerant guitar-slinging rock musicians seen as modern-day equivalents of outlaws. The band's 1977 masterwork, "Hotel California," announced that this symbolic last frontier was now settled. The album's most famous song, "Life in the Fast Lane," helped popularise the term that has come to stand for late 1970s-style hedonism: cocaine and recreational sex.

A similar romantic exhilaration suffused the songs of Joni Mitchell and Jackson Browne.

In Browne songs like "Colours of the Sun," "A Child in These Hills" and "Rock Me on the Water" painted an idealised Southern California landscape as a world in which nature and eroticism were mystically intertwined. In recent songs by Mitchell and Browne, that glow is gone. In "The Reoeurring Dream," a sound collage from Mitchell's 1988 album. "Chalk Mark in a Rainstorm," the singer adopts a disdainful tone to mock notions of glamour in parodies of inane advertisements that invoke the word "Hollywood."

One of the most noticeable changes in the recipe for the affluent white California dream in pop songs is the attitude toward drugs, specifically cocaine. The drug that Steely Dan extolled in their song "The Glamour Professison" as Hollywood's "middle name," has gone out of fashion in higher social circles as it has cut a deadly swath among show business folk and as crack has become an inner-city plague.

Los Angeles pop has always had its darker aspect. The Doors, with their boozy, apocalyptic posturing and aura of sadomasochism were the dark side of the Beach Boys and the Byrds. Since the mid-'70s, a postpunk and hard-core rock scene has existed, though not until recently has it seriously challenged the fun-fun-fun mood of the 1960s and 1970s.

Now that Los Angeles is wracked with pollution, crack and AIDS, the city is no longer the promised land. It's only fitting in white rock-and-roll, the West Coast band, Guns N'Roses, reigns supreme. They scream:

Welcome to the jungle,
We are the people that can find
Whatever you may need.
If you got the money honey
We got your disease
Welcome to the juogle
Watch it bring you to your knees.

For Jackson Browne, Joni Mitchell and Don Henley, hedonism has given way to disillusionment

The seductive lure of toxic waste

By Eddie Koch

WHEN South Africans this year watched television footage of the Karin B cargo ship wandering the oceans in a desperate search for a place to discard its cargo of toxic waste, most thought the dumping of industrial poisons was only a problem faced by their northern neighbours.

But news from Pretoria last month suggested that South Africa may soon become a hospitable port-of-call for fugitive freighters like the Karin B which, banished by most countries in Africa, have come to symbolise Third World resistance to the idea of becoming the world's garbage heap.

Local newspaper reports in South Africa in July whipped up a rare environmental scandal by disclosing that the government had approved a multi-million dollar project to build a plant capable of handling 500,000 tons of imported industrial waste a year.

The reports followed announcements by Mr. Kotze, the environment minister, that the government was considering building a toxic waste disposal site, mainly to exploit the project's potential for increased foreign exchange earnings.

Pretoria's Director General of Environment Affairs Mr. Visagie, immediately issued a denial. A local businessman had applied for permission to build the plant in Alexander bay in the northern Cape, but this has been turned down, he said. The government was merely looking into the feasibility of such a scheme and it was unlikely that any construction would take place this century.

But the assurances, clearly out of step with Kotze's earlier statement, failed to assuage the fears of South Africa's fledgling, and increasingly suspicious environmental movement.

"We think the public is going to be faced with another environmental disaster. The government's political disasters have created a serious shortage of foreign reserves and it is clear that the scheme is a financially viable solution," says Peter Lukey. He represents Earth Life Africa, a small but growing environmental pressure group in South Africa.

Given the sorry state of Pretoria's foreign reserves, the importation of other countries' discarded waste clearly presents a seductive solution to South Africa's fiscal stress.

Three months before the minister's announcement, each member of Parliament had been supplied with a leader article from the country's foremost business journal, analysing the lucrative possibilities of a toxic waste plant.

In the past four years, some $25 billion have flowed out of South Africa to service its foreign debt; as of last year, Pretoria still owed another $22 billion; and in the middle of this year it had enough reserves to fund necessary imports for just six weeks.

"Huge sums of money are available from America to anyone who is prepared to handle their waste in a safe and professional manner," says Peter Petter-Bower, director of a waste disposal firm called Prodev. "We are talking of billions of dollars, enough to solve the country's balance of payments crisis."

Guinea Bissau for example, recently turned down an offer of just 15 tons of waste, even though the consignment was worth three times the country's GNP.

Prodev, registered in Guernsey, has also conducted a geographical survey which identified a vast tract of land, stretching across the northern Cape and into Botswana, as suitable ground for toxic waste disposal.

The territory, says Petter-Bower, is ideal for dumping because it is remote semi-desert and has a water table low enough to prevent toxins from leaking into the water supplies.

Another indication that South African companies and the government are planning to import waste is the way environment officials have recently begun to repeat claims that this country has the scientific expertise to handle waste safely.

"Someone, somewhere is going to have to do it and it would be far better done responsibly by highly qualified scientists under international supervision than left to rot on some Third World shoreline," says Dennis Toens, former consultant for the government's Atomic Energy Corporation.

But such arguments have done little to stem the jitters felt by local environmentalists.

Only last month, a local newspaper revealed that a South African company, Thor Chemicals, which has been listed by Greenpeace as a major importer of toxic waste, had been discharging dangerouns levels of deadly mercury into a nearby river.

The disclosures, leaked by sources inside the government's local water board, came in the wake of assurances by the Thor director Stephen van der Vyver that their method of recycling waste was so refined that it left no toxic residues at all.

While these controversies persist, South African ecologists will stick to their argument that countries which generate toxic waste should find solutions, even if they are more expensive, in their own back yards — PANOS features.

Doctors: maggot treatment rare, but effective

By Patty Reinert
The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The parents of a 17-year-old girl say the centuries-old practice of allowing the fly larvae to eat decaying human tissue may have saved their daughter's legs.

"My husband said, 'let's go for it,' and Shannon said 'let's go for it,' so we did and it worked," Patsy Dillingham, the patient's mother, said.

Shannon Dillingham became critically ill May 10 and was taken from a clinic to children's hospital in Washington the next day.

Doctors there diagnosed her illness as meningococcemia, a blood-borne bacterial infection that caused heart failure, kidney problems and diseased skin, and eventually led to the amputation of part of one leg and the toes on the other foot.

Dr. Alan Fields of the hospital staff said antibiotics used to kill the bacteria released a powerful toxin in Shannon's circulatory system that caused blood clots, reducing the flow of blood to her legs.

Meanwhile, the bacteria continued to attack her skin, rotting it from the inside out, said her father, Thomas Dillingham.

Once Shannon's doctors amputated her left leg below the knee and her toes on the right foot, they still were faced with cleaning the remaining skin so skin grafts could be done. Antibiotics didn't work fast enough, and paring the skin from her legs did not work well enough, her doctors said.

"With Shannon's tissue dying, they needed to do something," her mother said. "When they use surgery, they take the live tissue as well as the dead tissue, and they had taken so much that they wanted to avoid that at all cost. All of her skin from the waist down was dying."

After a long search by the hospital and the Billinghams, more than 1,500 fly larvae were located in Ohio. On July 21, Shannon watched as the insects, so tiny she could barely seem them, were released onto her legs secured with tape.

"At first, they tickled when they put them in. My nurse and I were laughing," she said. "I could feel them moving everywhere."

After 36 hours, doctors used a high-pressure hose to wash them away. By then, the maggots had grown from less than one-sixteenth inch (1.6 millimetre) in diameter to nearly as big around as the end of a little finger, her father said.

"It's a gruesome issue, but we know that it can work," said Dr. Thomas T. Provost, chairman of the department of dermatology at Johns Hopkins Hospital. "It's clinically well known that maggots will eat the dead tissue while leaving healthy tissue intact."

Maggots have been used for centuries to remove dead tissue from infected wounds, said Dr. Joel Howell, assistant professor of internal medicine and history at the University of Michigan Medical Centre in Ann Arbor.

"When you have an infected wound, you'd rather have an animal, like a maggot, eat it up rather than letting (the infectious tissue) stay there," Howell said. "It was probably used more before antibiotics, or when it was more difficult for people to get to surgery."

Provost said the treatment has been used in modern times in the United States only as a last resort because of people's aversion to maggots.

"It is really horrendous," Provost said, "and most physicians are reluctant to do it because it tends to be sensationalised."

But Dillingham, a former teacher of biology, physiology and anatomy, was familiar with the insects' cleaning capabilities and encouraged his daughter to try it.

"I just wanted to get out of the hospital," said Shannon, who is senior class president at her high school. "If the maggots meant I could get out sooner, then I wanted them to use them."

Shannon's doctors are optimistic she will walk again with protheses.

Analysts presume Gulf Arab states preventing oil price rise

BAHRAIN (R) — Three Gulf Arab OPEC states are putting a lid on oil prices to keep the industrial world addicted to their crude, analysts and traders in the region say.

They said Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) want prices to stay in a range of $15-$18 per barrel to feed demand for OPEC oil and win a larger share of the world market in the next decade.

"With their huge reserves, Gulf oil states are better off keeping prices low... so they will induce demand for OPEC oil as well as discourage expenditure on oil exploration in other countries," a Gulf-based economist said Tuesday.

"Their aim is to keep the West hooked on oil from the Gulf, and the only way for this dependency to continue is to keep prices at competitively low levels of between $15 and $18 a barrel," he said.

In June, the UAE and Kuwait pledged to cut excess output, hut Gulf-based traders said that in the first half of August they pumped a total of about 1.5 million barrels per day (b/d) more than their combined OPEC sales quotas. Extra supply pusbes prices lower.

The two states are cooperating to boost their revenues and to pressure OPEC to raise their quotas, the traders said.

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest exporter, sympathises with its neighbours' demands for a bigger market share, the traders said.

They said Riyadh did not object to the excess production because prices had not fallen below $15 a barrel.

Industry sources say Saudi wellhead output is about five million b/d, above its OPEC sales quota of 4.769 million b/d.

"At the moment, Gulf states are happy with price levels," one trader said. "But if prices go below $15 the giant — Saudi Arabia — will raise its big stick."

The Gulf Arab states feel that if prices fall below $15 their revenues will be seriously hit and foreign producers like the United States might protect domesóc producers with taxes on imports.

A rise above $18 would encourage the West to find new oil supplies and develop alternative sources of energy.

Saudi Arabia tried to introduce a floor price of $15 at an OPEC meeting in Vienna last November.

The proposal, which nearly scuttled OPEC's output pact for the first half of 1989, was rejected by most members.

OPEC reaffirmed its $18 reference price in June. Algerian Oil Minister Sadek Boussena said most states in the group considered the target as a minimum.

But oil sources in the Gulf — whose countries hold an estimated 40 per cent of the world's reserves — say the Saudi proposal bas been accepted in principle by some other producers in the region, including Iraq.

Oil prices weakened hy nearly $2 a barrel last month amid growing evidence of a supply glut.

They bave since stabilised at just above $15 per barrel for the Middle East benchmark Dubai Crude.

Monday that demand for OPEC oil will rise to 22-23 million b/d by 1992 if the group maintains a prudent pricing policy.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) quoted a senior Iraqi oil official as saying.

MEES said Sabri Kadhim, of Iraq's State Oil Marketing Organisation, told an energy conference in Caracas, world oil demand would grow from 49.4 million b/d in 1988 to an estimated 52.4 to 53.3 million in 1992, depending on the price.

This would translate into non-OPEC supply of between 29.65 million b/d at a higher average oil price and 28.85 million at a lower price, leaving OPEC with a range of 20.9 to 22.6 million.

Kadhim did not specify what the high and low price limits were. He said OPEC should continue to set a production ceiling both compatible with realistic net demand on the group's oil and which supported its target price of $18 per barrel.

"... OPEC must monitor its pricing policies so as to consolidate its recent gains and slow down the development of other energy sources," MEES quoted Kadhim as telling the meeting of the International Association of Energy Economics.

He summarised OPEC's goals as follows:

— To achieve a "fair" price that would be neither so high it induced another cycle of substitution and conservation or so low it would yield less than the minimum level of revenues required.

— To increase its share of the world market to a level compaóble with its reserves.

— To set a price that would yield OPEC revenue of at least 1988 levels in real terms and would encourage cooperation with non-OPEC states.

Mohammad Al Saqqaf

Jordan, Soviet Union agree to expand ties

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will organise an industrial and agricultural fair in Moscow in the first half of 1990 to promote the sale of Jordanian products in the Soviet Union and adjust the balance of trade which is heavily in favour of the Soviet Union, Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary-General Mobammad Saqqaf said in a statement.

He said that the fair will be allowed to sell up to $5 million to Soviet companies in accordance with an agreement signed between the two sides during a visit to Moscow recently by a Jordanian economie and trade team.

The two sides agreed to trade goods worth $50 million annually and also decided that they exchange visits by trade officials to pave the way for an increase in the volume of traded products, Saqqaf noted in his statement.

Saqqaf said that the Soviet Union has agreed to conduct a study exploring the prospect of launching a joint project for the production of phosphate-based products in Jordan.

The two sides, Saqqaf said, agreed that experts from both countires should meet before the end of this year to work out terms and conditions for the establishment of a timber processing plant in Jordan with help from the Soviet Union.

Sudanese turn off businesses

KHARTOUM (R) — Much of Khartoum's business community is wagiog silent war against Sudan's new military rulers, merchants and diplomats have said.

Khartoum, a mainly slum city of some seven million people, is now suffering its worst shortages of basic food items in recent years.

Army troops have been posted to keep an eye on restive crowds queuing at petrol stations and state-run food stores. Bread, soap and sugar are almost impossible to find in private shops.

"No (businessman) wants to buy and no one wants to sell," said the owner of a factory producing insecticides.

General Omar Hassan Al Bashir overthrew the civilian government of Sadeq Al Mahdi June 30 and cracked down on illegal foreign exchange dealings which financed the import of many goods that would have otherwise been unobtainable.

He also applied an abrupt credit squeeze.

Diplomats say scarcities result partly from wholesale and retail merchants keeping their trade to a minimum.

Another reason, they say, is the virtual halt of private sector imports under stringent foreign currency regulations introduced last month.

Businessmen say factories which depend on imported raw material are grinding to a standstill while orders that they must pay up overdue taxes and settle all overdrafts with state and private banks threaten some firms to bankruptcy.

For the past week hundreds of vehicles have queued outside petrol stations as soon as the overnight curfew ends at 4.30 a.m. Motorists receive a ration of four gallons (18 litres) a week.

With public transport disrupted by lack of fuel the new leaders has urged motorists to run makeshift bus service, giving lifts to travellers in return for the normal fares.

Foreign economists say inflation is running at an annual rate of about 100 per cent, 20 percentage points above official figures released in June.

Crippled by a long-running civil war and foreign debt estimated at $14 billion Sudan has been in the red for more than a decade.

Rafsanjani lines up new-look team to run economy

Ali Rafsanjani

DUBAI (R) — Iran's new president Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has gathered together a strong team of technocrats to treat the stricken economy.

Iranian and Western economists said parliament is likely to vote through Rafsanjani's men for the economy portfolios when they debate his proposed cabinet list, probably this weekend.

"Most informed officials now realise that other than borrowing more from abroad and opening to the West, there is no other way to rebuild," a regional Iranian economist said.

With economie experts at his back, the new president could concentrate better on beating off a cballenge from leaders who believe most economic cures for Iran go against Islam.

National budget chief Morteza Alviri last Saturday described the economy as "sick, dependent and bankrupt."

Rafsanjani sbowed his commitment to tackling the problem in his inauguration speech. "It is not right to safeguard the nation with the hungry, poor people marching forward to sacrifice their lives. It cannot go on like this," he said.

"He bas gone for competence in the economic ministries rather than political affiliations," said an European diplomat.

The danger in the move is that Rafsanjani must rely even more on his personal power and prestige to swing parliament behind his policies, Western analysts said.

The advantage is that if his experts succeed in reviving industry and agriculture and raising living standards, the popular support could swing rapidly behind Rafsanjani.

Representative of the new team is proposed economics and finance minister Mohsen Nourbakhsh, an economics postgraduate from California University and a former central bank governor.

Iranian economists said Nourbakhsh resigned as governor because he opposed loose monetary control. This later proved to be a major technical factor in Iran's economic decline.

Abdul Hossein Vahiaji is set to take over the commerce ministry. He is from Iran's merchant class, which believe in freer market forces to boost the economy.

Experienced heavy industry vice-minister Mohamnad Hadi Nejad-Hosseinian is die to take over as chief in his ministry.

Mathematics and computer scientist Gholamreza Aqazadeh retains the oil ministry while Issa Kalantari, an agriculture postgraduate from Nebraska University, holds on to the vital farm sector portfolio.

Private sector share in Saudi economy grows

RIYADH (AP) — The private sector now contributes more than 50 per cent of Saudi Arabia's gross national product (GNP), with the government broadening fields of investments and diversifying its oil-based economy, the Saudi monetary chief said in his annual report.

Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) Governor Hamad Al Sayari, in a statement to King Fahd when be presented the agency's annual report for 1988, also expressed sanfsacrion at the kingdom's weathering oil price downfalls over four years before beginning to improve in 1987.

Saudi Arabia is the world's largest oil exporter. Its economy has been heavily dependent on oil receipts for growth, although the kingdom has been aggressive in the past decade in seeking to move away from oil export earnings.

"Oil market upheavals had an effect on the economy, but this has been dropping off because of the diversification of our economy as a result of the rapid increase in the basic industries, in agriculture, industry and other sectors," Sayari said.

He said that despite the "number of sharp negative factors in the world economy," which had their impact on the Saudi economy, the kingdom's GNP developed by 3.2 per cent in 1988.

Sayari said "the Saudi economy showed marked resilience" in standing up to four years of weak oil prices, coupled with the fluctuations in exchange rates of the U.S. dollar and increasingly protectionist tendencies that also affected Saudi products.

The report showed that the oil sector's share of the GNP dropped substantially from about 60 to 25 per cent of total GNP between 1970 and 1988.

The share of the private sector in the GNP was 29 per cent in 1980.

In 1988, non-oil industries developed at the rate of five per cent, compared to two per cent in 1987, while agriculture developed by 16.4 per cent.

"Vast economie development over the years bas been accompanied by stability in domestie prives and an increasing improvement in the standard of living of the citizen," Sayari said. "The investment atmosphere was suitable. And the private sector showed increasing confidence reflected in the continued flow of private capital over the past years."

According to the SAMA report, Saudi Arabian revenues totalled 104 billion riyals (27 billion) in 1987, a 36 per cent increase from 1986 receipts. They were put at 116 billion riyals ($30.9 billion) in 1988, against total spending of 141 million riyals ($37.6 billion).

Hamed Al Sayari

S. Korean economists see lower growth

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea's economy is forecast to grow an overall 7.7 per cent in 1989 amid signs of a slight recovery in the second half of the year, economists have said. The forecast falls short of the government's goal of eight per cent for the year and represents a slide from last year's 12.2 per cent growth. The state-run Korea Development Institute (KDI) said an expansion of exports and facility investment in the second half of the year would push growth to 8.4 per cent in the last six months. It said labour unrest and the appreciation of the won currency held growth in the first half of the year to 6.8 per cent.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.5770/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1745/55	Canadian dollar
	1.9563/73	Deutschemark
	2.2070/80	Dutch guilders
	1.6867/77	Swiss francs
	40.90/93	Belgian francs
	6.6050/6100	French francs
	1403/1404	Italian lire
	143.00/10	Japanese yen
	6.6175/6225	Swedish crowns
	7.1325/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.6050/6100	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	366.10/366.50	U.S. dollars

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, August 22, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	597.9	603.9
Pound Sterling	942.4	951.8
Deutschemark	306.0	309.1
Swiss franc	355.0	358.6
French franc	90.8	91.7
Japanese yen (for 100)	418.9	423.1
Dutch guilder	271.6	274.3
Swedish crown	90.5	91.4
Italian lira (for 100)	42.8	43.2
Belgian franc (for 10)	146.4	147.9

Chileans to appeal FIFA sanctions

ZURICH (AP) — Chile's soccer association has said it will appeal sanctions imposed following disturbances at a World Cup match against Brazil, FIFA said Tuesday.

The appeal was expected to be submitted at a meeting Tuesday between FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter and a delegation from the Chilean Soccer Association, said a spokesman for the world soccer authority.

Guido Tognoni said it was "possible" that Chile might threaten to withdraw from the world cup if FIFA did not lift the sanctions. He would not elaborate.

At an emergency meeting last Friday, FIFA banned the Estadio Nacional stadium in Santiago for all international matches by national squads and club teams until further notice because of crowd disturbances at the Aug. 13 match.

This would mean Chile playing its crucial Aug. 27 qualifier against Venezuela on neutral territory.

Fans threw objects on to the field during the rough game, that saw two players expelled and prompted protests to FIFA from Brazil, which ties with Chile at the top of South America's group 3.

FIFA also banned Chilean coach Orlando Aravena indefinitely from the team bench for disobeying the referee's orders to stop coaching his team on the pitch.

Tognoni said Sergio Stoppel, head of Chile's delegation, had said he would make an appeal, although he had not yet handed it to FIFA.

Canadian tennis star denies anorexia

TORONTO (R) — Former Canadian national tennis champion Carling Bassett-Seguso Monday denied persistant rumours that she is suffering from anorexia nervosa, known as the 'slimming disease' and that it has affected her heart.

"I had a child. I moved away from home. We built a house. It was a lot of stress. It just built up and I lost a lot of weight," an extremely thin looking Bassett-Seguso told a news conference at the women's Canadian Open Tennis Championships.

The weight loss — 20 pounds (9 kg) from her playing weight of 118 (54.5 kg) — did affect her, however.

"My metabolism just really shot up. I could never relax, could never sleep... but I never had any trouble with my heart," explained the 21-year-old Toronto native.

Stressed out and feeling sickly, she said she was forced to spend four and a half months away from the women's tour.

'Now I'm fine but it took a long time," she said, although she still has deep circles under her eyes and matchstick-thin arms and legs.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A SPOT MAKES

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 8 5 2
♥ 5
♦ J 10 8 7 4
♣ K Q 10 9

WEST
♠ Q 9 7 4
♥ 6 4
♦ A 9 2
♣ A 7 6 3

EAST
♠ A J 10 6 3
♥ 3
♦ Q 6 3
♣ J 8 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 2
♦ K 5
♣ 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♥	Pass	2 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♥

By and large, it makes little difference whether you lead the four or the six of a sun. But once in a while it does matter, as this amusing hand illustrates.

South's opening two-bid was strong, although our choice would have been a simple one heart opening. However, the final contract of four hearts was pretty close to par. It was just a pity that the only values in the North hand were wasted.

West had an unattractive choice of opening leads. He did not want to lead from any of his honors, so he decided on a trump. Had he selected the six of hearts, this hand would never have seen the light of day. Declarer would have had to play everything out of his hand and, as long as West rose with the ace of clubs on the first lead of the suit, the defenders would make a spade, a club and two diamond tricks for down one.

Unfortunately, West led his low heart. Dummy's five was played perforce, and to everyone's surprise declarer found he was on the table. All was not yet well. Declarer led the jack of diamonds, and when East played low he was faced with a guess—should he run the jack or go up with the king.

There was one slight pointer to the winning play. Since declarer could easily have a singleton king of diamonds, East might have risen with the ace if he held that card. Relying on his judgment, declarer played low, and he was delighted to find West had to win the trick with the ace.

Declarer ended up losing just one trick in each side suit. Have you ever noticed how often it is that when someone gets a lucky break, he succeeds in cashing in on it?

THE BETTER HALF® By Harris

"I thought our new carpet might be too plush, but it's so hard to tell from a catalog!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GERAW

HECKO

FALLOR

TYDWAR

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "_____" _____ (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WHINE TAKEN QUAINT PUSHER
Answer: A few of those cheeses have this— QUITE A "PHEW"

SPORTS IN BRIEF

MARADONA'S GONE FISHING, NEWS AGENCY SAYS: Argentine soccer superstar Diego Maradona, who has failed to report back to the Italian Napoli club, was on a fishing trip in northern Argentina, the Official News Agency TELAM said in Buenos Aires Monday. TELAM said Maradona was in Esquina, a Parana river town where his parents were born in the province of Corrientes, 800 km (500 miles) north of Buenos Aires. The 28-year-old captain of Argentina's world champion team was originally expected in Naples on August 3, but later Napoli extended his holiday to August 16. (R)

STEVE SMITH TO PLAY FOR AFRICAN TEAM: Former Australian international cricketer Steve Smith has signed a three-year contract to play for South African provincial team Transvaal, he announced in Sydney Tuesday. Smith, 28, who played 28 one-day internationals for Australia, previously toured South Africa with rebel teams led by Kim Hughes in 1986-87. He now faces a ban of up to 10-years from the Australian Cricket Board if he returns to South Africa, which is ostracized by the International Cricket Community because of its government's policy of separate racial development, known as apartheid. Top-order batsman Smith said security for his family was his prime motivation in signing for Transvaal. 'The bottom line is that I have my family to consider and their future,' he said. (AP).

THREE SEEDS FALL AT CANADIAN OPEN: Larisa Savchenko was so disgusted with her play at the women's Canadian Open tennis championships that she threatened retirement after losing her first round match in Toronto Monday. The 16th seed from the Soviet Union squandered a 6-3, 2-0 lead to fall to American Donna Faber 3:6, 6-2, 6-2. Two other seeded players were ousted on the opening day of this $300,000 tune-up for next week's U.S. Open. Australian Louise Field upset 13th-seeded Austrian Judith Weisner 6-3, 6-4 and France's Catherine Suire surprised 14th-seeded American Terry Phelps 7-5, 6-4. Savchenko was clearly rusty, not having played since Wimbledon where she lost to Faber in the first round. The American was able to neutralise Savchenko's serve and volley game with a combination of drop shots and passing shots that jerked the Soviet about the court and upset her already shaky timing. (R).

BULGARIA SUSPENDS DIMITROVA AFTER DOPE TEST: Bulgarian heptathlete Svetla Dimitrova has been suspended from competition for two years after a positive dope test last month, the official BTA news agency reported Tuesday. Dimitrova's coach, Iliyan Pishtikov, has been barred from training and the chief coach of Bulgaria's combined athletics teams, Stoyan Slavkov, has been dismissed, the agency said. The decision was announced after a meeting Monday of the Bulgarian athletics Federation which also recommended that measures be taken against the team's doctor Purvan Purvanov for lax supervision of the athletes in his care. Dimitrova tested positive for amphetamines after finishing third in the combined athletics event at a European Cup competition in the Netherlands on July 15-16. Bulgaria has declared a war on doping in sport after last year's Seoul Olympics where two Bulgarian weightlifters tested positive and were disqualified after winning gold medals. (R)

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: If this week feels confusing, you are probably not alone. The best stellar advice is to be as organized as possible and stay with familiar routines. Ironically, there is a lack factor working.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Someone may make demands on you that are impossible to fulfill. The focus is on payment of debts and re-evaluation of your finances.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have a good sense of order and balance. You are exciting to be with and romantic possibilities exist. Use your talents wisely.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can communicate your true feelings of love and beauty. Today, the moon influences your ability to get along with others.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) When you feel pessimistic over a relationship, you can be difficult to please. Give yourself a chance to be happy. Learn to relax.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Difficulty may arise when you must work within established rules. Bite the bullet, even if you know you have a better organizational plan.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Take responsibility for what you say. Some of your unusual views may be at odds with contemporary thinking, but reflect your talents.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Developing humility will help you to be a good listener and learn from others. There is a tendency to be opinionated today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make allowances when others don't live up to your expectations. Search for facts and evidence through research.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may prefer a quiet corner in which you can do your work. There is difficulty relating to others. Give attention to your budget.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make your home surroundings more appealing. Focus on dependents and pets. Slow down to a moderate pace. Tie up loose ends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you are feeling melancholy or sorry for yourself, do something to perk up your day. You will enjoy meeting with a special friend.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plans are put into motion. Avoid sheltering yourself into a cloistered life. Plan a exciting trip with someone special.

If Your Child Is Born Today
He or she will be efficient, critical, discriminating, and adaptable. Set up firm habit patterns surrounding the basics of life, but also give your child intellectual room to grow. Start early to supply your progeny with books and information sources on an appropriate level.

* * *

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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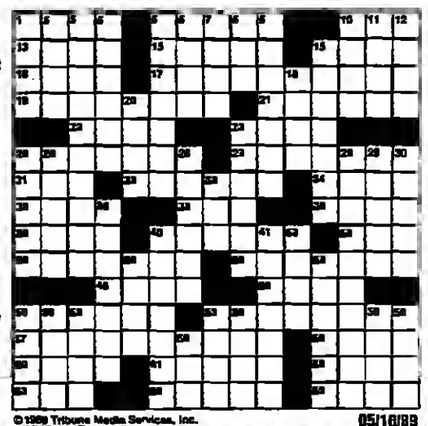
THE Daily Crossword by Wilson McBeath



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30 Is important
33 Legal point
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40 Regional atmosphere
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45 Path
47 Vibration
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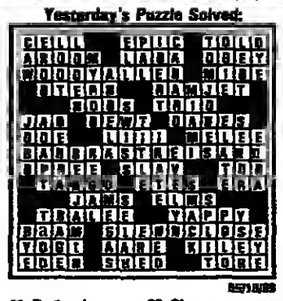
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



Peking looks for money at home, credibility abroad

"Asian Games will go ahead"

PEKING (R) — China is relying on its one billion people to dig into their pockets and help finance Peking's 1990 Asian Games — a project that officials say will probably lose money but may restore some lost prestige.

Games officials said Monday that China will next month formally invite 39 Asian countries to the games, scheduled to begin in September 1990. The government also plans national lotteries to help pay for the event.

Officials said the leadership was more determined than ever to stage a successful meet, partly to lure back foreign capital and tourists scared away by Peking's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in June.

"We will probably lose money on the games themselves," said Wu Zhongyuan, director of the official press department for the games, during a guided tour of games facilities for reporters.

"But if you think of it in terms of the tourism the games will bring to China and the good impression it will give to foreign countries and investors, then it will be worth it."

On June 4, tanks and troops crushed student-led protests in Peking, killing hundreds, perhaps thousands of people and provoking condemnation and limited sanctions from the West and Japan.

The action raised fears some countries would boycott the games in protest but officials said they had not heard of any that had decided it would not compete.

Martial law still rules Peking and officials gave no assurance that it would be lifted before September next year.

"I think that if we were to have martial law during the games then safety would be easier to guarantee," Wan Siquan, secretary-general of the Games' organising committee, told reporters.

He said it was not his job to talk about the possibilities of lifting martial law.

China is building an athletes' village and 16 new sports venues, as well as modernising 11 existing sites in Peking, for the biggest international sports meet here since 1949.

About 30,000 workers toil in the late summer heat building new stadiums and gymnastics halls.

Two white-facaded hotels for the press and games officials dominate the athletes' village, dwarfing a nearby glass dome intended as an entertainment centre.

All construction, including new apartment accommodation for an expected 6,500 athletes, will be completed by spring, officials said.

Premier Li Peng visited some of the sites Saturday and officials said the government would provide any funds that cannot be raised from the public or from creditors and donors abroad.

The leaders are now even more eager to hold the games," said Wu. "This has some relation to their desire to show foreigners that China is back to normal and is still open to the outside world."

The cost for the building and other preparations for the games are expected to reach 2.5 billion yuan ($675 million) but China remains 500 million ($135 million) short, officials said.

Diplomats have said Hong Kong and overseas Chinese may contribute less than originally expected by Peking because of anger over the June killings.

Officials said they did not know whether that was the case.

This month China began issuing 400 million yuan ($108 million) in lottery tickets nationwide, from which it hopes to raise about 120 million yuan ($32 million).

Another lottery may be arranged later, officials said.

Official scared witnesses in drugs inquiry

TORONTO (AP) — Ontario's top track official has been blamed for promising to punish athletes who admitted using steroids and unwittingly scaring off witnesses for a federal inquiry into drugs in amateur sport.

Rolf Lund, President of the Ontario Track and Field Association, was taken to task Monday for a decision in March, two months after the inquiry began, to strip provincial athletes of their records if they admitted they had taken steroids at the time.

"Here you are in the middle of our inquiry telling athletes they're going to be penalised," said Mr. Justice Charles Dubin, glaring at Lund.

Dubin was appointed to head the inquiry into the drug scandal prompted by 100-metre world record-holder Ben Johnson.

Johnson tested positive for steroids at the 1988 Olympics and was stripped of his gold medal for the 100-metres dash.

"I don't understand why you did that," said Dubin. "You were discouraging people from coming forth and telling the truth."

"It wasn't the intent," Lund replied, recalling that the decision was taken shortly after Johnson's coach, Charlie Francis, told the inquiry about widespread drug use among top athletes around the world.

"We were concerned this was an instance where a coach had admitted publicly, was now on the stand and was becoming somewhat of a cultural hero," Lund said. "He added that he was concerned at the time about a public perception that the association was doing nothing to punish steroids users.'

In earlier testimony, Lund said he strongly suspected Johnson was taking steroids several months before the Olympics.

But he has portrayed himself as a man who was paralysed by the fear of legal action if he made his suspicions public.

"I did not have any hard evidence," Lund said. "I was very sensitive to legal action."

Lund has testified that when he first suspected Johnson and other top athletes were taking steroids, he notified the Canadian Track and Field Association, track's national governing body, and asked for an investigation.

Francis has alleged that CTFA chairman Jean-Guy Ouellette offered to warn him of any attempt to institute random drug testing. Ouellette, who has denied the allegation, will appear before the inquiry later this week.

Powerboats speed into world arena

ST. PETER PORT, Guernsey (R) — Few sports can be as exhilarating or as frightening as international offshore powerboat racing.

It is high-speed, spray-splashed motor sport on water. High-powered catamarans and monohulls backed by up to 300 horse power and capable of topping 190 kph career across the sea to leave first-time participants with knuckles whitened, fists clenched, nerves stretched and hearts pounding.

Often dismissed as just a rich man's hobby, powerboat racing has developed in recent years into a potential rival to international motor sport as the favourite marketing arena for some of the most wealthy sport-sponsoring companies in the world.

In Italy this year a crowd of more than 100,000 people watched the Rome leg of the newly created world series for class one powerboats.

Italian companies have been impressed and the sight of a pack of these extraordinary vessels racing around their shores has led to hugely increased support for the sport.

Former class one world champion Steve Curtis of Britain has been one beneficiary. Italian backing has enabled him to become a professional powerboat racer and a leading symbol of the sport's rapid growth.

"The Italians are mad on it," he said. "They love it and it gets terrific coverage on television and radio and in the newspapers. It is growing fast there and also in France.

"The sport has changed a lot. It's getting very competitive and very serious and it's too tough now at the top for anyone who only wants to mess about or pose. It's really very fast and very dangerous."

Curtis was speaking on the island of Guernsey where he had been asked to help to demonstrate the sport ahead of next month's class three two-litre world championship.

Curtis, a tall, grinning athlete with a wild mane of blond hair cheerfully acknowledges the mind-bending dangers of his chosen sport but firmly believes its growth will continue to be rapid.

"It has developed very quickly in the last few years and is now getting better organised on an international scale with sponsors and events and the regulations are being streamlined," he said.

"It is really only a matter of time before the television side of it gets properly sorted out with the development of the world series. Then the sport will take off."

Taking off is one of the first sensations of powerboat racing, as the boats crash against the swell and rise and dive in the waves.

Each boat carries two people — one on the throttle, who controls the speed and steering, and the other navigating.

With the boat dipping violently and then jumping out of the water at high speed it is virtually impossible at times to do much more than hang on for survival, let alone keep a sure eye on important landmarks, passing traffic and a compass.

Hand-waving is the only reliable form of communication between the two as they race across the waves, helmets often bumping uncontrollably on sharp turns around the corners of the racing course marked out by buoys.

Curtis's success has led several other Britons and a host of local Guernsey enthusiasts to seek glory in this year's powerboat week — but few expect to overcome the professional challenge from the Italians.

One who does, however, is Mark Sauvarin, a 33-year-old car sales director who has been racing powerboats for nine years.

His current model is a class three two-litre monohull in which he hopes to add a world title to his two Guernsey championships won already this year.

"I love it," he said. "I left Guernsey once to live in England but soon came back. The lure of the sea and the racing was too much. It gets in your blood and you can't let go.

"Once you have really experienced it, you know exactly what I mean. There is nothing else like it at all."

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

Pretoria pursues tougher policy but activists defiant

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Police arrested nine white anti-apartheid activists Tuesday and promised tough action against a growing mass defiance campaign.

Meanwhile, organisers announced plans to extend the civil disobedience to whites-only schools as the country moves towards segregated parliamentary elections Sept. 6.

Police arrested the activists outside city hall in the port city of Durban as they were trying yellow ribbons around palm trees and handing out pamphlets calling for an end to mandatory military service for white males.

The activists belong to the end conscription campaign, which vowed Monday to operate openly despite a government banning order.

Police arrested five people Monday at a demonstration by the organisation, which seeks a system of alternative national service for white men who do not want to serve in the military.

A number of leading anti-apartheid groups have unilaterally declared themselves "unbanned" as part of the defiance campaign which began Aug. 2. The non-violent protests are aimed at ending segregation of hospitals, neighbourhoods, schools, beaches and other facilities.

Police have responded by banning or breaking up several rallies and arresting or detaining without charge dozens of activists.

A spokesman for Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok said: "The restrictions on these organisations were imposed by the minister. Only he can lift them."

Vlok's spokesman, Leon Mellet, also said people who break their individual restriction orders "will sooner or later have to appear in court to answer criminal charges."

Hundreds of activists released from detention have been placed under restriction orders that limit their movements and political activities.

However, the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM), a loosely based coalition organising the protests, said it was "determined to continue with the peaceful defiance of apartheid."

Police used batons, wooden clubs and whips to quell demonstrations in Johannesburg and Cape Town at the weekend in their most forthright action against the three-week-old protest.

They said they would use whatever force was necessary to deal with further unrest.

"We are not deterred," said Titus Mafolo, one of several campaign leaders who called a news conference Monday to deny reports the police action had forced them to go underground.

The reports began after the arrest Friday of Mohammad Valli, a strategist of the campaign againt racial segregation and the exclusion of blacks from Sept. 6 general elections.

Mafolo appeared with human rights campaigner Max Coleman and Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the country's biggest labour organisation, the South African Congress of Trade Unions.

"We are determined to continue with our peaceful defiance of apartheid," they said in a joint statement issued in the name of the Mass Democratic Movement.

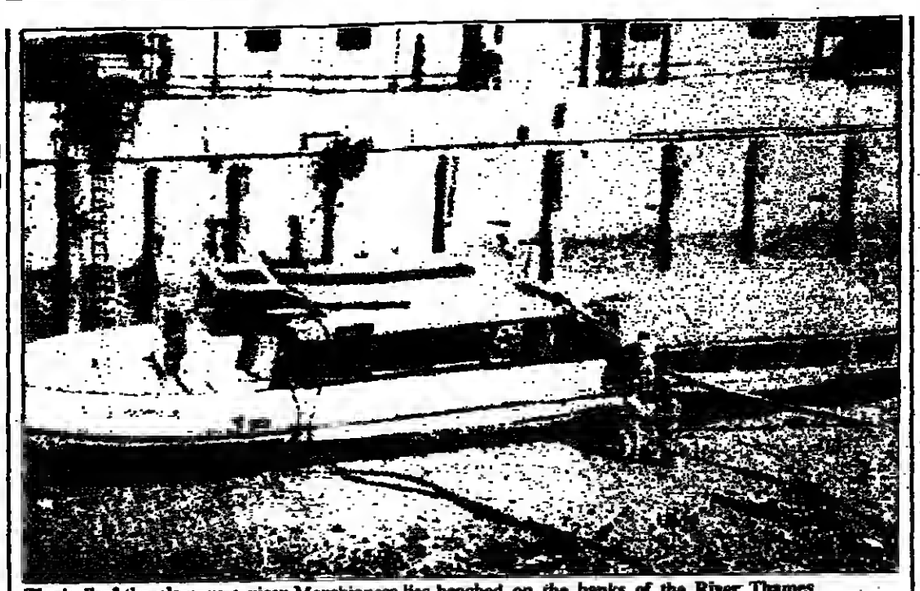
The statement said banned anti-apartheid organisations now considered themselves unbanned and would operate freely.

The police crackdown was in contrast to their hands-off approach in the early stages of the campaign, in which blacks presented themselves for treatment at whites-only hospitals and "banned" people ignored restrictions to appear at rallies.

Ministry spokesman Mellet said those who defied the law had to face the consequences.

"At the end of the day, when these people sit alone in a police cell, they must blame those faceless people who irresponsibly urged them to defy the law," he said.

"I don't think anyone can point a finger at us for trying to prevent crime and conflict," he said.



The hull of the pleasure cruiser Marchioness lies beached on the banks of the River Thames

Probe opens into Thames mishap; wreck sparks row

LONDON (AP) — An inquest opened Tuesday into the deaths of some of those killed in the sinking of a pleasure boat on the River Thames, and crewmen based at a pier near the accident site refused to work while the wreck of the Marchioness remained in the river.

Police raised the confirmed death toll to 26, following the discovery of a man's body near Battersea, about three kilometres upstream from the scene of Sunday's accident. The Thames is a tidal river, and the direction of the current changes.

Another 37 people are missing and believed dead after the Marchioness was rammed and sunk by a sand-and-gravel dredger, the Bowbelle. Police said 87 people survived.

The Transport and General Workers Union said crewmen based at Westminster pier, near the houses of parliament, decided at a mass meeting early Tuesday to cancel sailings until the wreckage is removed.

"The men feel very sad about what has happened and they feel they just can't operate while the Marchioness wreck is still lying there," said union spokesman Michael Cashman.

The Marchioness was resting on a sandy bank at the riverside near the accident site, and is exposed to view at low tides.

A young glitterati crowd of guests from the worlds of fashion and banking wete partying the night away aboard the 90-ton pleasure boat, which sank in the fast-flowing rivet within a few minutes.

At a London coroner's court, the inquest into the deaths of the 16 whose bodies bave been identified opened briefly and was then adjourned by Coroner Dr. Paul Knapman. The inquest will resume after other inquiries into the disaster are completed.

Under British law, the inquest had to open before the victims could be buried.

Meanwhile, two new regulations for pleasure boats on the busy Thames were announced Monday by Transport Secretary Cecil Parkinson.

One is that captains, already required to count passengers to ensure the hoats are not overloaded, will have to leave a record of passenger totals at their headquarters to avoid confusion

2,000 held in Sri Lanka sweep on extremists

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lankan security forces arrested more than 2,000 people in a three-day sweep after left-wing Sinhalese rebels threatened to kill families of servicemen, military sources said Tuesday.

They said many of the suspects had been released after questioning.

The bodies of 18 young Sinhalese men were found in a village at the same spot where Sinhalese radicals ambushed an army convoy two days ago; sources said Tuesday.

The bodies, all with gunshot wounds, were found in a roadside crater at Mahawehera, 135 kilometres northeast of Colombo, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The crater was formed Sunday when Sinhalese radicals detonated explosives under a passing Sri Lankan army patrol, killing at least five soldiers and a

The sources said the 18 men were suspected radicals killed in revenge for Sunday's attack. Government officials denied knowledge of any retaliatory violence in Mahawehera.

But senior government officials in the past have said privately that members of the security forces have committed "excesses" in their efforts to halt an extremist campaign of assassination and terror.

Military officials said Sinhalese radicals killed at least 20 relatives of police and army officers Monday and Tuesday.

Police said suspected rebels threw bombs at a police vehicle in central Colombo on Tuesday injuring one officer.

The leftist People's Liberation Front (JVP), waging a two-year old battle to overthrow the government, last week threatened to kill families of security men if they did not resign by Aug. 20.

Security forces retaliated by putting up posters in Colombo and provincial towns saying the same would happen to families of front members.

An Indian battalion of 600 soldiers returned home Monday from the northern port of Kankesanthurai, officials said.

So fare more than 2,500 soldiers out of the 45,000 stationed in Sri Lanka bave left since Colombo set a July 29 deadline for their withdrawal.

Since tben Colombo and New Delhi have been discussing a new timetable for pulling out the troops, who are enforting a pact designed to end a Tamil separatist campaign.

At least 4,000 people have been killed since the JVP launched an anti-government campaign in July 1987 to protest peace overtures made to rebels from the Tamil community.

The radicals say a peace plan aimed at ending the rebellion granted too many concessions to the Tamils.

They also say that the deployment of Indian soldiers in the north and east to enforce the plan compromises Sri Lanka's sovereignty.

The Indian high commission or embassy said its soldiers on Monday killed five Tamil rebels belonging to a group that rejected a 1987 plan.

At least 11,000 people, including 1,000 Indian soldiers, have been killed since Tamils launched their separatist war in 1983, complaining of discrimination by the Sinhalese majority.

Tamils form 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people and Sinhalese make up 75 per cent.

COLUMN

New Jersey police get pelted

MORRISTOWN, New Jersey (AP) — Dozens of people threw rocks at police and passing cars after rumours spread that a police dog bit a man being arrested on drug charges. Monday's disturbance took place in a mostly black neighbourhood where protests erupted earlier this year after the death of a black man in police custody. The latest incident lasted about 45 minutes, and produced no injuries and no arrests, police said. The outcry began after members of the county prosecutor's fugitive unit saw Robert J. King, 21, on a street. King, who is black, was being sought for failure to appear in court to face charges of cocaine possession, police said. Officers using dogs tracked down King in nearby woods. King resisted and kicked one of the arresting officers, Mayor David Manahan said. The officer's dog nipped King on the buttocks, but did not break the skin, he said. A crowd of about 50 people, many of them teenagers, confronted the officers as they led king to a patrol car.

Cooled helmet for traffic cops

MANAMA (AP) — A university professor in Bahrain has designed an air-cooled helmet to protect traffic policemen against the fiery summer sun, a newspaper reported Tuesday. The Arabic-language newspaper Akhbar Al Khalee] said Wahib Al Nasser, a professor of physics at Bahrain University, placed a small fan within the helmet, and surrounding it with a wire net. Solar cells on top of the helmet make the fan spin. The design was submitted to the traffic administration for approval, said the paper. The heat in summer in Bahrain is in the range of 40 degrees Centigrade (104 Fahrenheit). It is much less than neighbouring Gulf countries where the summer heat can rise in places close to 50 Centigrade (120 Fahrenheit), but the island heat is made more intense because of humidity in the range of 80 to 90 per cent. Gulf hospitals treat people suffering from sunstrokes daily, usually the poor Asian labour hands who cannot afford the luxury of air-conditioned cars.

Koch calls on ghost for endorsement

NEW YORK (AP) — Chalk it up to campaign stress: ghosts are talking to Mayor Edward I. Koch, and he's talking back. Robert Moses, New York's planning czar who died in 1981, recently stopped by to chat with Koch, the mayor said Monday. Koch, in the middle of a tough primary contest for his fourth term, said Moses relayed two requests. "First, he wants me to be mayor," Koch said. The second request was that Koch bring the world's fair to New York sometime in the mid-1990s, he said. Koch was speaking to a black tie crowd attending a 50th anniversary celebration of the 1939 New York World's Fair. Koch reported that he told Moses, "If I didn't see him in person between now and then, I'll do it."

For a cause

KALISPELL, Montana (AP) — A hog that normally would sell for about $100 at auction brought $4,150 when bidders opened their hearts and wallets to help an injured 12-year-old boy. Ted Ernst had hoped to show his hog at the Flathead County Fair. But less than two weeks ago, he fell from a tree and was paralysed from the waist down. Ted is in a Missoula hospital, learning to get around in a wheelchair.

14,000 arrested in Colombian drug crackdown

BOGOTA (R) — The Colombian government has arrested as many as 14,000 criminal suspects, seized 134 aircraft and millions of dollars worth of property as part of a nationwide crackdown on drug traffickers, police and military sources said.

One of those arrested was named as Eduardo Martinez Romero, said by police sources to be facing extradition to the United States. Local television and radio identified him as the financial manager of the powerful Medellin cartel cocaine ring.

Police commandos impounded 54 aircraft at two airports in Bogota and 80 aircraft in the area of the southwestern city of Cali, base of a rival ring to the Medellin cartel, according to police sources.

"This will definitely disrupt the smuggling of cocaine to the United States," an anti-narcotics police officer said.

President George Bush hailed Colombia's crackdown on traffickers and "assured President (Virgilio) Barco of his strong support," the White House said.

It said Barco has ruled out any need for U.S. troops to aid in the crackdown during a telephone conversation with Bush late Monday.

The Organisation of American States (OAS) also declared its support for Colombia Monday after Bogota's ambassador to Washington said his nation was suffering a "toll of sorrow and blood" at the hands of drug-ring assassins.

The Medellin cartel and rival Cali ring smuggle up to 80 per cent of the cocaine consumed in the United States, according to U.S. officials. With the market in the United States increasingly saturated, they are pushing to expand their smuggling network in Europe, narcotics experts say.

A significant portion of Colombian cocaine smuggled abroad is carried out aboard planes equipped with extra fuel tanks, narcotics experts say.

The seizure of the planes was the latest phase of a broad crackdown ordered by Barco Friday night, following a wave of assassinations of public officials by drug-sponsored killers.

On Sunday night, a Defence Ministry communique said 10,450 people had been arrested and millions of dollars worth of property seized.

No official communique has been issued updating the figure, but a senior officer at the 13th army brigade headquartered in Bogota said the number of people detained had climbed to 14,000 people by Monday afternoon.

While there was no official word on any leading drug baron being seized, police sources said a Medellin cartel figure sought in the United States was captured in the northern state of Sucre. They said the U.S. government had sought his extradition.

Martinez Romero was seized by 30 police commandos at his farm Sunday at Toln, about 700 kilometres north of Bogota, Sucre state police Commander Colonel Alfonso Arellano told Reuters by telephone.

Local television identified him as the head of the finances of the Medellin cartel.

President Barco's emergency decrees clear the way for summary extradition of traffickers, a measure hailed as a "courageous move," by Bush.

In all, there have been at least 321 raids of property linked to traffickers, including that of reputed chieftains of the Medellin cartel, the Defence Ministry said.

While there have been raids on the Cartel leaders' estates in the past, the current crackdown marks the first time properties have actually been confiscated, narcotics experts said.

TV news footage Monday showed several mansions of reputed traffickers which sprawled over the equivalent of several city blocks.

The reported leader of the Medellin drug cartel, Pabloa Escobar

Double-faced trick keeps tigers at bay

By Paul Holmes
Reuter

ROME — A two-faced trick has stopped man-eating tigers in their tracks in the Sundarbans area of India, where their human prey are surviving by wearing face masks on the back of their heads.

Tiger expert Peter Jackson, who is attending an international conservation conference in Rome, said the simple ploy had had a dramatic effect since it was introduced in 1987 on the basis that tigers normally attack from behind.

Man-eating royal Bengal tigers have killed more than 500 people in 13 years in the Indian part of the Sundarbans, a huge tidal delta of mangrove forests reaching into Bangladesh.

But Jackson said only four mask-wearers had fallen victim — one in an attack from the side, and three when they took off the masks while they had a meal. Last year, Tigers killed 16 people in the Sundarbans of India compared with 63 in 1975.

The cheap, lifelike rubber masks are worn by villagers who go into the forests to fish, collect honey and cut wood.

Jackson, a Briton, said they were the most effective of various measures tried to keep tigers at bay, including plastic head and body armour and human dummies wired up to give the beasts a non-lethal electric shock.

"Of course, people are asking now whether the tigers are going to catch on to this trick. But I don't think it will happen," Jackson said in an interview.

"After all, butterflies and beetles have evolved camouflage against the threat from predators. I see no reason why this shouldn't continue to work with the tigers in the Sundarbans."

Jackson is chairman of the cat specialist group of the Swiss-based World Conservation Union (IUCN), whose three-day conference on endangered species ends in Rome Tuesday.

More than 200 experts are taking part in discussions that range from the fate of orchids to the threat to the African elephant, whose numbers have been halved by ivory poachers in 10 years to about 700,000.

Jackson said the masks could also benefit the Sundarbans tigers, which number about 500 to 600, the world's largest single population. They are a protected species and hunting is banned, but Jackson said the fewer killings the better for the tigers.

"In conservation terms I think it's important because naturally people are deeply concerned and asking why we conserve tigers when they are killing people.

"If we can minimise this problem we show people that we are also conscious of human interests," he said.

'Dingo-baby' woman seeks compensation

SYDNEY (AP) — A woman who claimed a wild dog snatched and ate her newborn child says she hasn't received pledged government compensation after her pardon on a conviction of killing the infant.

Lindy Chamberlain became a household name in 1980 when she said a dingo carried off her six-week-old daughter Azaria while the family camped in the outback near Ayers rock, a sacred aboriginal site.

Last year, the Northern Territory court of criminal appeal in Darwin overturned the woman's sentence of life imprisonment with hard labour. She had spent about four years in jail.

It also quashed the conviction of her husband, Michael, a former pastor of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, of being an accessory to murder.

Mrs. Chamberlain, 41, held a news conference Monday in which she said she owed promised compensation by the Northern Territory government which prosecuted the "dingo baby" case.

"Maybe an apology is a little hard to swallow and let's face it, compensation is an apology," said Mrs. Chamberlain, whose story became the U.S.-released film "A Cry In The Dark" starring Meryl Streep.

One figure leaked by unidentified sources in the Northern Territory government put the promised compensation at about 4 million dollars ($3 million). That figures could not be confirmed Tuesday.

Despite the movie and eight best-selling books about her case, Mrs. Chamberlain claimed she has received little money from the media publicity.

And she said her husband Michael has only eked out a living chopping firewood while the family cannot afford new shoes for her three school-age children.

The couple said they owe 1.5 million dollars (about $1 million) in legal fees for their protracted court battle.

The Chamberlain drama began on a cold night in August 1980 wheo Mrs. Chamberlain cried out at the family campside in central Australia, "a dingo's got my baby."

At first, the Chamberlains' story was believed. But later Mrs. Chamberlain was accused of slitting the infant's throat.

The baby's body was never found, but bloodstains were found in the couple's tent.

On Oct. 29, 1982, the Chamberlains were found guilty and Mrs. Chamberlain was sentenced to life in prison, where she gave birth to a second daughter, Kahlia. Her husband was sentenced to a suspended 18-month sentence.

In February 1986, a breakthrough in the case came when a British tourist jumped off the huge monolith to his death. Trackers investigating the suicide found the tattered remains of Azaria's jacket, which Mrs.

'Heart men' blamed for ritual practices in Liberia

By Robert Mahoney
Reuter

HARPER, Liberia — "They usually take the heart but the blood, eyeballs, navel and genitals can also be removed," said a doctor.

"The body parts are made into potions, charms or are eaten," the Western-trained doctor said with growing embarrassment.

He was speaking about the practice of ritual killing. Belief in "juju" magic is prevalent in parts of the west African country founded by freed American slaves in 1847.

Hardly a week passes without the discovery of some mutilated corpse which Liberian newspapers attribute to the "heart men," or sorcerers who perform "juju" magic with parts of the body.

In a recent case attributed to ritual killing, Liberia's former defence minister, once the second most powerful man in his country, will face the firing squad for ordering the murder of a policeman, unless President Samuel Doe grants a reprieve.

Major-General Gray Allison, who was convicted Aug. 18, was arrested after the headless body of patrolman Melvin Pyne, drained of blood, was found dumped on a railway track near the capital, Monrovia, in March.

Witnesses at his trial said the ritual was part of a plot to overthrow the president, which Allison denied.

The prosecution at Allison's trial said he had the policeman's throat slit to get blood for a juju rite which would enable him to overthrow Doe.

Various cases have turned the spotlight — unfairly, according to Marylanders — on Allison's home county of Maryland and its main city harpet, a town of crumbling mansions and church spires.

On the main square ten years ago, nine prominent local men were hanged for the ritual killing of a well-known singer. Last year the town was up in arms during the trial of six local notables including a methodist minister for the ritual killing of two boys in 1986. The six have appealed their death sentences.

"There are more ritual killings reported around (the capital) Monrovia than here," said B. Nyema Dalieh, the Roman Catholic bishop of Cape Palmas, which includes Maryland.

"Maryland has an unfair reputation," he told Reuters. One reason for its image as what a newspaper called Liberia's Transylvania is Maryland's isolation. Roads there become, in the words of one Western missionary, "four feer of chocolate cake batter" during the rainy season.

Ritual murder is a problem that is not restricted to Libera, but most Liberians are at a loss to explain why it should occur in parts of their country, which has a large Christian population and which is America's oldest ally on the continent.

"What we have here is superstition, people going to the witch doctor for remedies to their troubles," said Bishop Dalieh.

Belief in magic and ancestor worship, known here as "African science," is pervasive. The freed slaves brought their fundamental Christianity and their southern American manners, but their values rarely took root and they themselves in part reverted to their ancestors' customs, employing juju men.

The practice of trial by ordeal, for example, was abolished in 1973. But it continues in the bush, according to witnesses. A hot cutlass which fails to burn the accused shows he is telling the truth. A witch doctor accused of evil can prove his innocence by drinking poison

The authorities prosecute only a fraction of reported ritual killings. One reason, according to a Monrovia lawyer, is that witch doctors threaten to kill anyone who testifies.

Those who order ritual killing usually employ middlemen to find and murder a victim, often a child or a drunk, who is then handed to the witch doctor.

The instigator believes he will never achieve or hold on to his political or business power without juju, said university lecturer Moses Nagbe.

He thinks others could be using it against him so he protects himself.

Although ashamed of it, few Liberians think they will be rid of ritual killing quickly.

"Most Liberians abhor ritualistic killing but only a few are willing to drop traditional beliefs entirely in favour of Christianity," said one missionary.

"Christians in Europe and North America were burning witches only a few hundred years ago," said Bishop Dalieh. "Custom dies hard but as Liberians become better educated and more grounded in faith it (ritual murder) will disappear."

Global weather
(major world cities)

	MIN. °C	MIN. °F	MAX. °C	MAX. °F	Weather
AMSTERDAM	16	61	27	81	Clear
ATHENS	24	75	35	95	Clear
BAHRAIN	30	86	40	104	Clear
BANGKOK	27	81	34	93	Clear
BUENOS AIRES	07	44	12	53	Rain
CAIRO	24	75	35	95	Clear
CHICAGO	20	68	29	85	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	18	64	25	77	Clear
FRANKFURT	15	59	31	88	Clear
GENEVA	14	57	31	88	Cloudy
HONG KONG	25	77	32	90	Clear
ISTANBUL	21	70	30	86	Clear
LONDON	17	63	25	77	Clear
LOS ANGELES	17	63	24	76	Cloudy
MADRID	18	64	34	93	Clear
MECCA	28	82	45	113	Clear
MONTREAL	18	64	22	72	Rain
MOSCOW	10	50	20	68	Clear
NEW DELHI	28	82	36	96	Cloudy
NEW YORK	19	66	28	82	Cloudy
PARIS	19	66	31	88	Clear
ROME	20	68	35	95	Clear
SYDNEY	08	46	17	63	Clear
TOKYO	25	77	32	90	Cloudy
VIENNA	19	66	28	82	Clear